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## RUSSIAN BRIBERY AND INTRIGUE.

THE English public has never been sufficiently informed of the patient intrigues of the late Emperor Nicholas in every country in Europe where he had influence or territory to gain, or any advantage—military, diplomatic, or social—to expect. His intrigues in Austria were carried on for years before their object was suspected. Prince Metternich was perhaps the only Austrian statesman of his day who was fully aware of the duplicity, the

perseverance, and the infinite resources of Russian diplomacy. Count Stadion and Prince Schwarzenberg saw the danger at a later period. While living they did their utmost to avert it; and they left their anti-Russian policy as a legacy to their successors. It was not only by means of his agents and Ambassadors that Nicholas endeavoured to carry out his plans. He turned his own personal advantages and opportunities to the utmost account, and flattered the vulgar rich by his smiles, his presents, his crosses, and his orders; while he left to inferior agencies the

task of demoralising the vulgar poor. He was gifted by nature with a commanding presence. He was "every inch a King." He looked the Imperial Potentate that he was. There was a power and a majesty about him which never failed to dazzle all who came within the charmed circle of his presence, especially when it pleased the demigod to smile upon the smaller men that "crawled under his huge legs" and did him homage. When it suited him to inspire terror as well as admiration, he never failed in his purpose, unless the object of the experiment happened to



THE RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL, M.P., MINISTER OF ENGLAND AT THE CONFERENCE OF VIENNA, 1855.—FROM A PAINTING BY THOMAS CARRICK.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



be an Englishman, an American, or a Frenchman. To the Russians he was God's viceregent; and to the Germans—so well had they been tutored by their Governments—he was little less formidable and awe-inspiring than he was to his own subjects. His demeanour towards his own military and civil functionaries offered a striking contrast to that which he exhibited to the high authorities, especially to the military ones, of foreign nations. At home he was a "Jupiter tonans," armed with the thunder-bolt, to betray whom was to incur certain destruction. He rarely forgave the slightest transgression. His will was the law both of the State and the Church; and he had the pretension to rule not only the bodies but the souls of his people, to be as absolute over their consciences as their lives. His caprice, while it lasted, had the effect which, in our happier country, can only be derived from an Act of Parliament. His ukases, though the one issued to-day may have been diametrically opposed to its predecessor of yesterday, were all equally binding; and if he were in the humour to be severe—which he generally was, for he hated human nature whenever he did not despise it—to obey or to disobey him was equally perilous. He suffered no contradiction from a Russian, and rarely tolerated remonstrance or advice. If he ever overlooked a fault, which is doubtful, it was in Prince Orloff. No other servant, or favourite, however great his services, was forgiven, if he had the misfortune, voluntarily or involuntarily, to incur his displeasure. Diebitch, Paskiewitch, Menschikoff, all served him, and disappointed him—not for lack of zeal, or capacity, or honesty, but solely for lack of fortune, and for not accomplishing the impossible; and each of them fell under the ban, and was disgraced. Cold, stern, and vindictive, he strove to rule by terror alone. He comported himself towards his people and his aristocracy as if he both hated and feared them; and as Van Amburgh might have done towards the lions and tigers of the menagerie; relying only upon the strong arm and the inflexible will to coerce them into abject submission. He avoided the least show of indulgence, lest it might lead to the suspicion of weakness, and tempt the wild beasts to turn upon and rend him. But, while this was his conduct at home, his policy abroad was very different. To Russians he showed the terrors, but to Austrians and to Germans the splendours, of his countenance. Though he treated the ex-Emperor Ferdinand of Austria as a harmless idiot, and the present King of Prussia as a dangerous pedant, he took care to heap all possible honour upon the military chiefs of both nations. He strove to ingratiate himself with Generals and Colonels, with Captains, and even with Lieutenants, in the Austrian and Prussian service. He talked to them of their families and their prospects. He kissed the foreheads of their wives when presented to him; and when he had, as Emperor, conferred this honour upon them, he kissed their hands as a gentleman, to confer honour upon himself. He took means to ascertain the amount of the private means of officers of high standing and position; and if he discovered among them any one who was both poor and ambitious he made a note of the fact, that he might turn it to profitable account on a future occasion. In some instances he is known to have paid the debts of Austrian, Prussian, and Bavarian officers; and in hundreds of cases where this could not be done, or where the perilous favour would have been proudly refused, if offered, he conferred the order of St. Vladimir, or some other equally coveted; or he sent a jewelled snuff-box or a diamond ring. But to the civilians in the service of Austria he adopted a different course. He affected to treat Austria as an entirely military Government—as a pure despotism ruled by the Kaiser, through the medium of his army. He recognised as little as possible any other authority. He snubbed Count Buol in 1851 for speaking of "the Austrian Government," stating that he recognised no Government (*Regierung*), and that he only knew the Emperor. Count Buol has possibly forgiven the rebuff, but it is not likely that he has forgotten it. Nicholas objected to moustachios, except when worn by military men. One of the existing Ministers of the Emperor Francis Joseph, whose name need not be mentioned, attempted, on the occasion of the famous meeting of the two Emperors at Olmütz, to do a graceful thing by shaving off the ornaments of his upper lip before appearing in the presence of Nicholas. The Czar, however, would not condescend to receive him, either with or without moustachios; so that the Ministerial sacrifice was made in vain. Unless the Minister be a very amiable man, it is probable that he, too, may not have forgotten this trifling circumstance; for such trifles are affronts which rankle deeply, and which human nature, unless it be extremely philosophic and well disciplined, is not likely to pardon. One result of this systematic flattery of the Austrian army, and that which Nicholas no doubt anticipated, is that among the upper ranks of the service the cause of Russia has many enthusiastic adherents. If the Austrian Court has been slow to act with the Allies, it is possible that influence of this kind has been brought to bear upon it. The fact itself is notorious. The Czar played this game in Prussia with still more brilliant success. Nor, as regards Austria, were his blandishments confined to the army. In the Austrian dominions, out of a total population of nearly 37,500,000, there are 3,699,896 of the United Greek Church, and 3,161,805 of the Non-united Greek Church. The United Greek Church is Roman Catholic in name. It acknowledges the spiritual authority of the Pope, and does not differ from Roman Catholicism in doctrine; its only point of severance being that it uses a ritual in the vernacular of its people, and not in Latin. The Non-united—or, as it is sometimes called in Austria, the Schismatic—Greek Church is the same in doctrine as the Russian Greek Church. Its followers are chiefly to be found in Galicia, Bukovina, Dalmatia, the Military Frontier, Hungary Proper, Croatia, Slavonia, &c. They have a Patriarch of their own, who resides at Carlowitz; but it suited the purpose of Nicholas to ignore, and to cause the schismatic Greek Church of Austria to ignore, as much as possible, the existence of this Prelate. At an early period of his reign he adopted towards the priests a course of systematic bribery. Whenever a Greek church in Austria was ascertained by his spies and agents to be poor, Nicholas sent the priests the funds to build a new or to endow an old edifice. If the priests had shabby robes, Nicholas sent them money to buy rich ones. If the church had no ornaments, Nicholas sent them pictures and statues, and presents of gold and silver plate. When he had by these and other means created and

strengthened a favourable impression, he sent them his portrait by cartloads for distribution among the peasantry. In the cottages even of Hungary the traveller sometimes found the portrait of the Emperor of Austria, but he almost always found that of the Emperor of Russia; represented not only as the Czar, but what was of more importance, as the head of the Greek Church. That nothing might be left undone to create or to strengthen the influence of this too liberal and too wily benefactor, the liturgical books of this population were sent to them, cheap (if not gratuitously), from Moscow, where they were printed by Imperial command. These books, as might be supposed, contained a prayer for the Emperor Nicholas, and every Sunday and Saint's day the people were taught to regard him as their friend and protector—their spiritual, if not their temporal, chief. It was not until after the revolutions of 1848 and 1849, and after it had begun to feel the tremendous weight of the unlucky obligation it incurred when it invited Russian assistance to crush the Hungarian insurrection, that the Austrian Government became fully aware of the mischief which had been thus fomented. At that period it resolved to put a stop to these underhand proceedings, and forbade the importation of Russian Prayer-books. These are but a few of the circumstances which, to borrow an American phrase, have "riled" the Austrian Government against the policy of the late Czar. The *Moniteur* has opportunely brought to light the instructions given by Alexander I. to Admiral Tchichagoff, in 1812, which show at how early a period Russia began to act the traitor towards Austria. Even within the last fortnight it has become known to the Austrian Government that Russian agents have been intriguing among the Slavonic population of her borders. When to such causes of distrust are added high reasons of European policy, as well as of self-interest, the world may well believe that Austria will dissociate herself once, and for ever, from the schemes of Russian aggrandisement which the present or any future Emperor of Russia may inherit or originate. Russia stands alone; and, if she be not effectually driven back at the present great and unparalleled opportunity, Europe will rue the day that she was either timid or merciful towards a Power whose barbarism is a solecism and an anachronism, and whose ambition is a standing peril to every civilised country.

#### LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.—(No. V.)

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, April 21, 1855.

ON Monday afternoon the instructions required by Prince Gortschakoff and M. Titoff from the Czar arrived from St. Petersburg. The courier was five days on the road. On Tuesday the tenth Conference was held at the Foreign-office, under the presidency of Count Buol; and a messenger with despatches was sent off to Berlin by Prince Gortschakoff, probably to make known to the Prussian Government the contents of the important document so anxiously expected. What took place at the Conference is known to no one but to those present and the Governments which they represent. At its close Lord John Russell made arrangements for leaving Vienna on Friday (yesterday). It was his Lordship's intention to proceed to England via Berlin; and to remain for half a day in the Prussian capital. On Thursday another Conference (the eleventh) was held, and sat for two hours. Lord John Russell, at its close, postponed his departure from Vienna until Monday morning, the 23rd instant. To-day the twelfth Conference was held—and, at the time at which I write, is still sitting. These are all the facts that I have to communicate, with the sole exception that M. Drouyn de Lhuys does not take his departure with Lord John Russell, but remains for some days longer—how many is unknown perhaps even to M. Drouyn de Lhuys himself. Beyond these simple facts all is conjecture. It would be easy to expatiate upon and draw inferences from them, as the Viennese do—but *cui bono*? Of what use is it to say that on Tuesday the Russian Ministers refused to concede the Third Point; and that Lord John Russell resolved to leave them to their obstinacy; and that on Thursday, having reconsidered the matter, they held out the olive branch; and that, thereupon, Lord John determined to remain, and confirm them in their good resolution? But all this would be idle, and possibly erroneous, surmise; which the telegraphic wires might render of no avail—and of no interest—long before the Post-office delivered this letter in London. But there are persons who have, or are supposed to have, access to official sources of information—who, with all the mysterious vagueness of a Pythoness upon her tripod, drop hints of the actual state of the negotiations, and give you to understand that "they could, an they would" make you as wise as Count Buol, or Lord Westmoreland. But it would be as unsafe to attach any value to such innuendoes, as to buy for hard cash a breath that has been breathed, a sound that has been made, or an odour—good or bad—that has evaporated and gone off into the thin and fathomless atmosphere.

It is natural, however, that people should be uneasy amid the secrecy that is so rigidly maintained; and that Rumour should be as busy in her own way as the ten diplomatists of the Conference are in theirs. But rumour in Vienna is as changeable as the season. One day it blows pleasant spring weather, and men go out in light costume, and dream of Peace; next day it blows cold, biting, and frosty from Spitzbergen, and men wear overcoats, and think and speak of nothing but War. When the wind blows from the Peace quarter, everybody believes that Russia has yielded, or is about to yield, to the demands of the Allies on the Third Point; but when the man of little faith inquires what it really is that the Allies demand, no one can tell. When the wind blows from the War quarter, Russia is said to yield nothing, or to propose terms which it would be dishonourable on the part of the Allies to concede. Thereon arises a giant of fog and mist—huge and shapeless—who stalks into the Exchange, and sends down the Funds one-and-a-half or two per cent before people have had time to examine whether it were a real giant after all, or a monstrous unreality, having a *gobemouche* for its father and a *canard* for its mother.

Upon the whole, however, the opinion gains ground that the Austrian Government is too anxious for peace, though it hates Russia with the intensest hatred, to play as bold a part as Great Britain and France desire; and that Great Britain and France, on their side, are so anxious to secure the co-operation of Austria, that rather than break with her they will yield many points which, under other circumstances, they would not dream of conceding. For my part, I believe nothing of the kind. It is possible that

we shall have a "patched-up" peace if Sebastopol be not levelled to the dust by the Allies, or by her own desperate act, to save them the trouble. Russia will make good terms for herself, and will manage to escape from the difficulties of her position without draining to the dregs her cup of humiliation. But if Russia be let off too easily it will be the fault of Great Britain and France, and not of Austria. Austria has gone too far to withdraw from the alliance. If the Western Powers are themselves "up to the mark," if they see their duty and their interest clearly and palpably, and are firm enough to insist upon "material guarantees," and to suffer no denial, Austria will follow them whithersoever they please. But if they yield at the last moment Austria will be well contented. But, in this case, blame ought to fall on the right shoulders. A "patched-up" peace will be the fault of Great Britain and France alone. The game is in their hands. If they have not the sagacity or the courage to play it out, so much the worse for them, and so much the worse for Europe. A peace conceded out of mere dislike to war, and for the sake of present ease, will not be worth a sheet of paper. There are two great points involved—two points quite as vital to the Allies as the Four Points which they are still discussing with Russia. The one point concerns their honour, the other involves the security of Europe. There are not wanting persons—in high as well as in low station—who maintain that the Western Powers have done enough for their honour in driving the Russians out of the Turkish territory; in maintaining possession of Eupatoria, Balaklava, and Kamiesch; in sweeping the fleets of the Czar from the Black Sea and from the Baltic; in reducing the naval power of Russia to a nonentity, in destroying her maritime commerce, and in gaining every battle which the Russian generals have ventured to offer, or to accept. All this is true; but English and French honour requires something more. It requires Sebastopol as the crowning point, and unless that be gained Russia will claim and be entitled to the credit of having foiled the two greatest Powers in the world. That it will make the most of such a circumstance in all her future intercourse with Europe, and with Asia, is as certain as mathematical science, and as the fact of Russian cunning and ambition. The Allies must either take, or compel Russia to destroy, her Black Sea fortress, or the war will have been fought in vain, and Alma and Inkerman will remain as inconsequential and barren victories.

On the point of European security can any one, not a Russian, maintain that a peace without material guarantees from Russia will conduce to it? Russia has taught the world that no reliance is to be placed upon her honour; and if at this moment the Allies forget the lesson, they deserve to sink into second-rate States, and to lose all right and power to influence the affairs of the world.

The people of Vienna are on the tiptoe of expectation. They are looking for a visit from Napoleon III.; and are resolved, if he come, to give him a reception as splendid as that which he has received in London. So confident are they that he will honour this city with his presence, that householders have already begun to speculate on letting their windows at high prices for the occasion. The idea of such a visit is not very consistent with that of a peaceful close of the Conferences.

#### LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

If Lord John Russell's mission to Vienna has not been attended with all the good results which were desired, we think it has achieved all the success that was expected by reasonable and thinking men—including, we have little doubt, the noble Lord himself. There was little to be hoped for in diplomacy from a Court which, in the piquant phraseology of our distinguished representative at those Conferences, had already "exhausted every variety of falsehood;" and the professed desire for peace was soon discovered to be merely a delusion and an expedient to gain time and advantage in the field. If the Ministers of the Western Powers had been so minded, there is little doubt but these negotiations might have been indefinitely protracted; but their own sense, and the sense of the united peoples whom they represented, would not tolerate such an idea. A plain proposition, extremely moderate in its nature, was proposed to the Russian Minister for the adjustment of the famous Third Point, and to this a plain answer was demanded. The answer was given, and it was one of flat refusal—a refusal which palpably revealed the fact that Russia had never seriously entertained the idea of treating with a view to peace. We have no doubt that the part taken by Lord John Russell and the French Minister will prove to have been such as fully to justify the concurrence and approbation of the two nations. In the meantime, Lord Palmerston on Monday night satisfied the natural curiosity of the country by stating the main facts of the case as it stood at the period of the abrupt termination of the Conferences. In answer to a question from Mr. Bright, the noble Premier said:—

It is well known to the House that the English and French Governments, in concert with the Government of Austria, had determined that the proper development of the Third Point with respect to the treaties of 1840 and 1841, regarding the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, should be, among other things, that the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea should be made to cease. That was the principle laid down by England and France, and agreed to by Austria; and that principle was in the abstract accepted by the Russian Plenipotentiary. On Thursday last, at the Conference held in Vienna, the Plenipotentiaries of England, France, Austria, and Turkey, proposed to Russia, as a mode of making that preponderance cease—as a mode of carrying out the principle which had been in fact admitted and accepted by Russia—either that the Russian naval force in the Black Sea should henceforth be limited by treaty, or that the Black Sea should henceforth be declared neutral ground, and that war-ships of all countries should be excluded from it, and those of commerce only admitted. The Russian Plenipotentiary required forty-eight hours for the consideration of that point. That was granted. On Saturday the forty-eight hours had expired; and on that day another Conference was held, at which the Russian Plenipotentiary absolutely refused to accept of either of those alternatives. These alternatives had been pressed by the four other Plenipotentiaries unanimously. Thereupon the Conference was adjourned *sine die*. The noble Lord added that the Russian Plenipotentiary had made no counter proposals of any kind.

Now that this famous Conference is over, it can hardly fail to occur to every man who knows anything of such matters, that, from the first, it was a "mistake"—a mistake from which our enemy was the only party who, in the chapter of accidents, could possibly reap any advantage. We were early told—and there was no denying it—that, in the prosecution of the war, we had not obtained any successes which would entitle us to lay hard conditions upon our adversary. We had not taken Sebastopol; and it was not to be expected that the Czar would voluntarily yield up and raze fortifications which had, during six months, successfully resisted our attacks. To this—much to the regret of a large portion of the public—our Ministers assented, and expressed their willingness to accept of other conditions for limiting the power of Russia in the East, in the interests of the European balance. Various plans were proposed—all more or less fallacious; and which in the end, as we firmly believe, would only have postponed the difficulty in hand—postponed it to come before us again at some future period, under a more formidable aspect. Amongst other propositions was one that the Western Powers should be allowed to keep up fortified positions in the Black Sea, as a check upon Sebastopol; the absurdity of which was at once apparent, resulting, as it necessarily would, in a permanent armed occupation, and *status belli*, in which the Western Powers, by reason of their distance from the field, would ever be at the disadvantage. Another proposition was to throw open the Black Sea to all nations, and remove at the same time the veto which the Porte rightfully asserts upon the passage of ships of war through the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. But this project was even more seriously obnoxious upon public grounds than the other, as it would at once destroy the national integrity and sovereign rights of Turkey, the defence of which had been the cause of the war. Lastly came the proposition for limiting the strength of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, which, as we consider it would eventually have proved illusory, we are very glad the Czar has rejected. We have only to add that, in so rejecting a very modest proposal, the Court of Russia has shown that it was utterly insincere when it pretended to accept the Four Points as a basis of peace. Nothing now remains but to improve our position to the utmost by force of arms.



VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR AND  
EMPERESS OF THE FRENCH.

(Continued from page 416.)

devolved on the Recorder, and the learned gentleman did full justice to the importance of his text, his manner of reading the portion addressed to the Empress being exceedingly admired for its respectful friendliness. The address was in the following words:—

TO THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES NAPOLEON III. AND EUGENIE, EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF FRANCE.

May it please your Majesties,—We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Dover, approach your Majesties with feelings of the most profound respect, deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon us in being graciously afforded the opportunity of expressing to your Majesties the hearty welcome with which we greet your arrival in this country to visit to our beloved Queen.

It is our earnest hope that this auspicious event may tend to strengthen and perpetuate the cordial union which, happily for the progress of freedom and civilisation, now exists between France and Great Britain; and that the just and necessary war, in the prosecution of which the combined fleets and armies of both nations are gallantly co-operating, may, through the blessing of Divine Providence, be speedily terminated by a secure and honourable peace.

We rejoice that your Majesties have been pleased to select this ancient port for debarkation. We shall cherish a lively remembrance of the honour that has thus been added to the many of a similar kind proudly recorded in our annals.

We devoutly pray that you, Sir, may long guide the destinies of France, and reign in the hearts of a loyal, happy, and contented people; and that you, Madam, may long live to share the throne which your virtues so highly adorn, affording solace and relief to your august Consort amid the cares inseparable from the government of a mighty nation.

Given under our corporate seal at Dover, this 16th day of April, 1855.

At the termination his Imperial Majesty advanced a step, and, without any paper, and evidently impromptu, delivered his reply in excellent English, as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I am exceedingly grateful that your Queen has allowed me to find such an occasion to pay my respects to her, and to assure you of my sentiments of esteem and sympathy for the English people. I hope our two nations will always remain united as they are now, in peace as in war. I think it will be for the welfare of the whole world, and for their own prosperity.

I am exceedingly thankful for your kind words, and the good reception you have given to me and the Empress, and I hope you will be the interpreters of our sentiments to your countrymen.

The Emperor having cordially exchanged greetings with the Mayor and principal municipal functionaries, the latter retired from the room.

At the railway platform the energy and ability of Mr. Way, the station master, had put into the most complete order the arrangements for the Imperial journey to town. The whole of the interior had been tastefully decorated with laurels and flowers, dressed with many-coloured bunting, and trophied with the Imperial and English flags. A standing gallery had been prepared, in which were closely packed the principal inhabitants of the town; and here again the Emperor and Empress had to bring their best bows and smiles into requisition, in order to acknowledge the genuine hearty greetings of their English friends. Captain Barlow, the Company's Superintendent, was in attendance at the door of the carriage, and, by the Queen's command, Mr. Inspector Baker—a most efficient officer, on whom regularly devolves the onerous duty of attending the Royal progresses. The Emperor and Empress walked slowly along the platform, and looked with a decidedly pleased expression on the well-dressed and smiling crowd, and the various excellent arrangements which had been made for the reception. Mr. Way had the honour of taking the lead to the Imperial carriage, and Captain Barlow had the distinguished honour of handing them into the carriage. Strict injunctions had, it appears, been given that no persons but those whose names had been given in a list which had been furnished by the Imperial Equerry should travel in the special train; but, whether by favour or subterfuge, some parties contrived to get into one of the carriages, and as a consequence the rule had to be relaxed in favour of others who had an equal claim to accommodation.

Just as the train was about to start, the Emperor beckoned the Mayor to the door of the carriage, and held him for a few minutes in friendly conversation, at the same time repeating his adieu to the municipal body. At half-past two the signal for starting was given, and the train proceeded at high express speed for town. As it flew past every station crowds of people might be seen waving handkerchiefs; and at Tunbridge, where it stopped for a few moments, and the illustrious party alighted, there was an imposing demonstration. The whole platform was crowded, but the Emperor walked through, without seeming in the slightest degree incommode; but graciously acknowledged the cheers even of the workmen, who covered the adjoining walls. Reigate, Norwood, and all the minor stations, exhibited similar scenes of enthusiasm; but the appearance of the Bricklayers' Arms Station was of an imposing character. Every accessible spot was densely crowded, the cheering was deafening, and the appearance of the Life Guards and the Royal carriages and liveries gave unequalled brilliancy and effect to this first stage in his Imperial Majesty's visit to the great metropolis. Here also the platform was densely filled with distinguished company.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr. Sheriff Crossley, and attended by Mr. Catty, one of his Lordship's secretaries, was in attendance to receive the Emperor, and the greeting between his Imperial Majesty and our civic monarch was of the most cordial character. His Imperial Majesty shook hands in a friendly and familiar manner with his Lordship, expressed his delight at making his acquaintance, and his hope that that acquaintance might be of long duration. His Lordship then proceeded to search out his own special guest, the Prefect of the Seine; and all the notabilities, Imperial, Royal, and civic, were soon en route for town. The carriage containing the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Albert, started off at once without escort, except that of at least half a million of people, who densely filled the streets on both sides, and cheered all the way into town. The remainder of the carriages followed, and were accompanied by the escort, and the vast crowd had a friendly cheer for every successive detachment.

The brilliant cortège proceeded at a foot pace through the great southern section of the metropolis—the home of those industrious classes who are the bone and sinew of the country. The crowds were imposing from their sheer numbers, but much more so from the fact that they were all men and women who supported themselves by the labour of their hands, and had made for them the costly sacrifice of a day's earning, in order that they might ratify, by their presence and acclamations, this crowning event of the great alliance between France and England. The streets through which they passed, if not magnificent, are, at least, spacious, and thus afforded ample accommodation for the immense masses of people who had turned out for this great holiday. All through the Kent-road, thence to the Westminster-road, Westminster-bridge, and in the route through the West-end, the crowds were still increasing, and the cheers increased in fervency as the Royal carriages passed along. Historic Whitehall made a noble picture; and at Charing-cross the unsightliness of the National Gallery and our contemptible fountains of Trafalgar-square were hidden from the visitors' view by the countless thousands who blackened the whole of the open space. We have not the taste of the French in getting up gay and brilliant decorations with a few scaffolding-poles, a bundle of green leaves, and a plentiful supply of many-coloured calicoes; but many laudable attempts were made along the route, and any deficiency was amply compensated by the unmistakable cordiality of the people. Every hearty shout brought a sunny smile into the ordinarily grave countenance of the Emperor, and his features indicated that the observations he frequently addressed to Prince Albert were of a grateful and complimentary character. To describe the remainder of the route to the terminus of the Great Western Railway at Paddington would merely be tedious repetition; there were the same crowds, the same cheering, and the same good-humour and good order. Mr. Brunel, the daring Phaëton of the broad gauge, was in attendance, mounted on his favourite steam-charger, and at a given signal whirled the illustrious party off to Windsor at the pace of seventy-two miles an hour. They arrived at the Royal borough a little after seven o'clock; and, having been received by the worthy Mayor, Mr. Clode, were soon "at home" with their Royal hostess, and hid for the remainder of this exciting day from public observation.

The next day (Tuesday) was a day of deputations, receptions, and reviews. The Lord Mayor of London and the High Sheriff had an audience, to deliver their invitation to the Guildhall, which was graciously accepted; and an influential deputation from the bankers and merchants of London was also received; and in the afternoon the Emperor politely went to the Great Park to see such a review as we were able to offer him, with our 2nd Life Guards, our Blues, and our Carabiniers. They made but a sorry appearance in point of numbers, but then the Emperor would remember that they were the same manner of men who at Balaklava drove through the dense masses of the Russian cavalry, as if it were a "sheet of pasteboard;" and his historical reading would recall to him that Alexander the Great marched

victorious from Thrace to the Indus with only 25,000 chosen Macedonians. One Roman legion could at one time keep all Germany quiet; and the men of which our own army is composed are not a whit behind the old Greek or Roman warriors. It was expected that the Queen and her guests would have been present at the meet of the stag-hounds, and the investments in scarlet coats and buckskins were accordingly of appalling amount; but the Nimrods were doomed to disappointment, as the Royal party confined their morning peregrinations to the Park and the Model Farm. The review, which was gone through with admirable precision, lasted about two hours—the Emperor was most eulogistic; and the evening closed with the Royal dinner party.

The next day's proceedings, although hidden by strict Court etiquette from vulgar eyes, was one of the most gorgeous in its character ever seen in this or any other country, as well as one of the most important in its incidents, and in the remarkable personage who was now about to receive the most distinguished order of European knighthood. We refer to the Court Circular for the detailed programme of the Chapter of the Order of the Garter, and content ourselves with referring to one or two incidents which make the present investiture remarkable. In the first place it was noticed that on entering the grand Presence Chamber the ordinarily calm and impassive Emperor was obviously struck with the peculiar splendour of the scene that awaited him. On the throne, clad in her splendid robes of state and resplendent with jewels, sat her most gracious Majesty, and near her the Empress of the French, dressed with almost equal magnificence. The Court ladies stood around in brilliant costumes, and long rows of the Knights in their state robes, gave a solemn and magnificent finish to the picture. The Emperor paused for a moment and changed colour, and exhibited considerable emotion, as the august ceremonial was being performed. At the conclusion he would have kissed her Majesty's hand, but the Queen, as is the custom between Sovereigns, kissed him on both cheeks, and gave him the accolade. It may here be mentioned that her Majesty had been similarly condescending on his Imperial Majesty's arrival at the Castle. In the evening her Majesty gave a state banquet: the company comprised the Imperial visitors, nearly the whole of the English Royal Family, the Ministers and ex-Ministers, and the most distinguished members of the Emperor's cortège.

On Thursday the Emperor paid his memorable visit to the city of London; which ancient and puissant municipality fully maintained its high character for splendour and hospitality on this remarkable occasion. It is understood that to this feature in the Imperial visit the Emperor attached the highest importance. Court pageants could be got up in Paris, and the pageantry of the English Court followed as a necessary consequence on the invitation. But to be received of their own free will, without any suggestion or pressure, by the powerful and wealthy citizens of London, in their own ancient Guildhall, was a spontaneous ovation, of which the well-known feelings of the French bourgeoisie made the Emperor deeply appreciate the value. Besides, people at home, who are sometimes fond of laughing at our Lord Mayor and Corporation, although never refusing to accept their hospitality, have little appreciation of the estimation in which the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London are held all over the Continent. It is told of the First Napoleon that, when some one proposed to present Sir James Mackintosh, the Emperor asked his social rank and profession, and was answered that he was a distinguished man of letters, and a Lord Advocate. Upon which the Emperor peevishly replied, "I want none of your men of letters, or Lord Advocates—show me the Lord Mayor." We can recollect ourselves that, during the Paris fêtes of 1851, the great cry amongst the French sight-seekers was "Où est le Grand Maire?" although it must be confessed that, when they did see him, they manifested some surprise at the rather seedy habiliments to which the inexorable *doane* had restricted the then exponent of civic dignity. It was finely said by a popular orator who had said many striking things, that the municipality of London was an institution older than the present English people, being a legacy of the Roman occupation, when Hengist and Horsa were not thought of in the tight little island. The saying is not less forcible than true, and few will deny that an institution which has lasted so long, must have some great intrinsic merits to produce for it such an unparalleled longevity. But however old, the entertainment of Thursday proved that with the Corporation, as with the Egyptian queen,

Age could not stale nor time  
Wither its infinite variety.

As on the day of the arrival, the citizens kept general holiday: shops were shut, decorations abounded, and the streets were thronged with countless multitudes. The Imperial visitors passed rather smartly through the main avenues of the City, in a state carriage drawn by two of the Royal cream-coloured horses, and the reception was, if possible, more flattering than it had been on the previous Monday. There was a strong military escort, and a gigantic Lifeguardsman rode at each carriage window, but it was no fear of the English public that rendered such precautions necessary. Great anxiety was, it is understood, felt at head quarters best advantage should be taken of so favourable an opportunity for some insane attempt upon the life of the Emperor. Accordingly, in addition to the strong military escort, there were no less than 500 of the French secret police amongst the crowd, besides a large number of our own detectives; in addition to which watch and ward was carefully kept on the known haunts of the "Red" fraternity. One humorous story is told of the way in which a small colony of them was taken care of during the Imperial visit to the City; and, although we cannot vouch for its accuracy, it is too good and too probable to admit of its entire suppression. It is said that one of the most active of the secret police having ascertained that a considerable number of them were to assemble on the morning of Thursday in a house in the neighbourhood of Leicester-square, made a secret bargain with the landlord, the result of which was that they were all locked in, and kept in durance vile until their presence in the street had ceased to be of any consequence. Another anecdote, for which our authority is of the first excellence, shows that however smart and intelligent the secret police of Paris, there are some of our London pickpockets who can manage them. No less a personage than their director-general, while out seeing the sights of London, and accompanied by his myrmidons, had his pocket picked of a valuable watch by a "gentleman" who kindly undertook to be his cicerone; and, although the director discovered his loss in a moment, and arrested the thief, the watch had disappeared as if by magic, and to this moment has not been discovered. The act caused at first "beaucoup de chagrin," but has become a good joke amongst the director's friends. Beyond this little illustration of the fruits of the *entente cordiale*, there was nothing on the part of the English people calculated to give the slightest offence to our friends. One bookseller, in the neighbourhood of Temple Bar, had the good taste to exhibit a placard announcing the sale of a revolutionary brochure of Victor Hugo's, at the small charge of a penny; but the public evidently thought it dear at the money, as there were no bidders: but, on the contrary, there was great danger of the shop being gutted, so indignant were the people at this gross breach of the rules of hospitality.

At the old Guildhall itself the stroke of the hammer was going merrily up to the moment when the fanfare of the trumpets announced the approach of the Imperial cortège. Four companies of our noble Grenadier Guards, the comrades of the heroes of the Alma lined Guildhall-yard, and completed the military appearance of the vast pavilion which had been erected for the friends of the Corporation, immediately in front of the entrance. The decorations, however, both here and in the interior, have already been described in detail, and it is only necessary to add that their general appearance was much commended. It struck many of the spectators that the white colour of the walls formed a bad ground for the trophies with which they were decorated; but we bow to Mr. Banning, and the exigency of the time. The diplomatic box was well filled with the usual variety of foreign uniforms, and the Cabinet was fairly represented on the opposite side. We did not notice the presence of many ladies of high quality; but then it must be remembered that this was a citizens' festival, and that a burgher's wife or daughter had a right of precedence over the first lady in the land. The "City" was most imposingly represented, and the estrade was almost blocked up by the Common Councilmen in their gowns of mazarine blue—giving it the appearance of a Flemish picture of some solemn meeting of the stout burghers of Ghent or Bruges. The band of the Oxford Blues "discoursed most excellent music" from one of the galleries; and in the pauses a running recitative was sustained by the inexorable deputies who kept the postern and the people who thought to force their way in with wrong tickets, and sometimes with no tickets at all—a trick which was in more than one instance successfully practised by ladies. Science was in attendance with the photographic apparatus; but we fear the subject will offer real difficulties in the way of a successful result. The appearance of the Empress has already been described; and that of the Emperor is familiar to every one who looks—and who does not?—into the pages of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. When they took their places on the dais, the splendid *tableau vivant* which the hall and its gay company formed may be easily imagined. The Emperor looked round him with evident gratification, and the Empress blushed and paled alternately in the presence of the vast assemblage. The Corporation, headed by the Lord Mayor, in a grand crimson velvet mantle, came up with the address; but it was to be read by the Recorder,

and some moments had elapsed before that functionary made his appearance. When he had arrived in "hot haste" the address was handed to him, and he read as follows:—

TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

May it please your Majesty,—

We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, desire to offer to your Majesty our heartfelt congratulations on the arrival of your Majesty and the Empress of the French in this country as the guests of our most gracious Queen; and on behalf of our fellow-citizens and ourselves, we humbly tender to your Majesties the warmest expression of our gratitude for the welcome visit by which you have deigned to honour our city on this memorable day.

The attention of Europe and the world is already fixed on the attitude of dignity and united strength displayed by France and Great Britain in the present war, and the coming of your Majesty, invited by our beloved Queen at such a time, will draw closer the bonds of mutual friendship and common interests so happily uniting the two countries.

The cordial alliance of two such mighty Powers, cemented and sealed by intimate and frank intercourse between their rulers, must sway the destinies of all, will abate the pride of our common enemies, increase the confidence of our allies, and give new vigour to our arms.

By the wise policy of your Majesty's reign all our ancient jealousies have been appeased, and the flags of France and England now mingle their colours alike in the Baltic and in the East. Ranged together in a righteous cause, braving like hardships, and shedding their blood side by side in victory, the soldiery of our united armies and the seamen of our combined fleets have learned to regard each other with the love of brave and generous comrades, second only to the love they bear their respective countries; and while such are the feelings, we rejoice that sentiments akin to these are growing daily, and sinking deeply into the breasts of the people of these great and neighbouring nations.

None can doubt that the Allied forces thus animated, led in perfect harmony by commanders of tried skill and valour, and guided by united counsels at home, will achieve by arms the just and unambitious object of the present war; unless, as we may hope, the efforts of assembled statesmen shall yet avert the calamities of protracted warfare by the speedier negotiation of an honourable and enduring peace.

This cordial reception, therefore, of the chosen and puissant Emperor of the French by the illustrious Sovereign who reigns over these realms, and lives in the hearts of the British people, we regard as a type of a close and lasting friendship between the two nations, and the happiest augury of a returning time, when, undisturbed in the onward course of civilisation, the nations of Europe may again lay aside the sword, and resume their exalted rivalry in the works of beneficence alone.

We are earnestly anxious further to express to your Imperial Majesty the lively pleasure and respectful admiration with which we have seen you accompanied on this happy occasion by your illustrious consort her Majesty the Empress of the French. We tender to your Majesty the expression of our confident hope that you may ever find in the affections of domestic life the best solace and support which this world can afford, under the cares and weight of the high destiny you are now fulfilling with such conspicuous power and moderation, and we fervently pray that life and health may, by the blessing of Providence, be vouchsafed to your Majesties for many years to come.

The Emperor listened gravely; but evidences of internal emotion were afforded in the nervous play of the nostril and a slight quiver about the mouth. The Empress, also, who listened with great attention—being an excellent English scholar—showed by the quick movement of her fingers, and the faint blush that came and went over her delicate features, that she too appreciated the occasion, and was gratified by this address from the first city in the world. At the termination of the address, it was handed to the Emperor, who quickly handed it over to one of his suite, and, drawing a paper from his breast-pocket, proceeded to read his answer in English. It is often said that Louis Napoleon speaks English like an Englishman; but that is not true. He speaks it like a Frenchman who has been long in the country, and who thoroughly appreciates the idiomatic force of the language. The answer itself is a remarkable State paper, and will no doubt find a prominent place in the histories of the period. The following is the text:

My Lord Mayor,—After the cordial reception I have experienced from the Queen, nothing could affect me more deeply than the sentiments towards the Empress and myself which you, my Lord, have given expression on the part of the city of London; for the city of London represents the available resources which its wide commerce affords both for civilisation and for war.

Flattering as are your praises, I accept them, because they are addressed much more to France than to myself. They are addressed to a nation whose interests are to-day everywhere identical with your own (immense cheering). They are addressed to an army and a navy united to your own by heroic companionship in danger and in glory (Cheers). They are addressed to the policy of the two Governments, which is based on truth, on moderation, and on justice (Loud cheers).

For myself I have retained, on the throne the same sentiments of sympathy and esteem for the English people that I professed as an exile, while I enjoyed here the hospitality of your country (Protracted cheers); and if I have acted in accordance with my convictions, it is that the interests of the nation which has chosen me, no less than those of universal civilisation, have made it a duty (Cheers). Indeed, England and France are naturally united on all the great questions of politics and of human progress that agitate the world (Cheers), from the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Mediterranean—from the Baltic to the Black Sea—from the desire to abolish slavery to the hope of amelioration for all the countries of Europe. I see in the moral as in the political world that there are two nations, with but one course and one end (Loud cheers).

It is then only by narrow considerations and pitiful rivalries that our union can be disavowed. If we follow, then, the dictates of common sense alone we shall be sure of the future (Great cheering).

You are right in interpreting my presence amongst you as a fresh and convincing proof of my energetic co-operation in the prosecution of the war, if we fail in obtaining an honourable peace (Great cheering). Should we so fail, although our difficulties may be great, we may surely count upon a successful result (Cheers); for not only are our soldiers and our sailors of tried valour—not only do the two countries possess within themselves unrivalled resources, but above all—and here lies their superiority—it is because they march in the van of generous and enlightened ideas (Cheers).

The eyes of all who suffer less instinctively toward the West, because our two nations are even more powerful from the opinions which they represent than from their armies and their fleets (Tremendous cheering).

I am deeply grateful to your Queen for affording me this solemn opportunity of expressing to you my own sentiments and those of France, of which I am the interpreter (Cheers).

I thank you in my own name, and in that of the Empress, for the kind and hearty cordiality with which you have received us (Cheers). We shall take back to France with us the lasting impressions made on minds thoroughly able to appreciate the very imposing spectacle which England presents, where virtue, on the throne, directs the destinies of a country under the empire of liberty without danger.

This address was loudly cheered by those who were near enough to hear it, for its great force and generous sentiments; and by those who were not, because they believed in the judgment of their brethren in front. A series of presentations followed; in the course of which a variety of bows were achieved, from the briefest of "bobs" to the most profound of salaams; but it was remarked that Mr. Deputy Harrison, the Chairman of the Committee, was the only person presented who showed a proper sense of gallantry, by bowing in the first instance to the Empress. Honour to Mr. Deputy Harrison! "None but the brave deserve the fair." The moment these affairs of state were over, the Emperor and Empress descended from the dais, evidently relieved by the termination of its formalities, and chatted freely with the persons by whom they were surrounded. They stopped good-naturedly in the centre of the hall, under portentous batteries of loggnettes, in order that every one present might have a full and sufficient view before they left the hall for the banqueting-room. Here Messrs. Staples of the Albion had prepared a magnificent entertainment, and the *dîte* who were admitted proceeded to do it full justice. The tables were soon filled with aristocratic company, but it was a melancholy sight to see the portly Aldermen looking wistfully on, at a proceeding at which every one of them was *facile princeps*. To show the extraordinary efforts that were made by Messrs. Staples to do justice to this extraordinary occasion, it may not be uninteresting to mention that the napkins were trimmed with lace, and embroidered with the Imperial and City arms—the doyleys were of imperial green velvet, fringed with gold, and spangled with bees and the Imperial cipher. The wine-glasses were elaborately cut with appropriate devices, and the beauty of their workmanship attracted the marked notice of the Empress, who showed them to the Emperor, and both seemed highly pleased with the design. The dessert plates were a special effort of the great Coalbrook Dale Pottery, made in seven days, and were of a beautiful Imperial pattern on the celebrated turquoise ground, the great difficulty of high-class porcelain. In addition to this, there was also on the table a service of the celebrated Du Barry pink, which is intended for the French Exhibition.

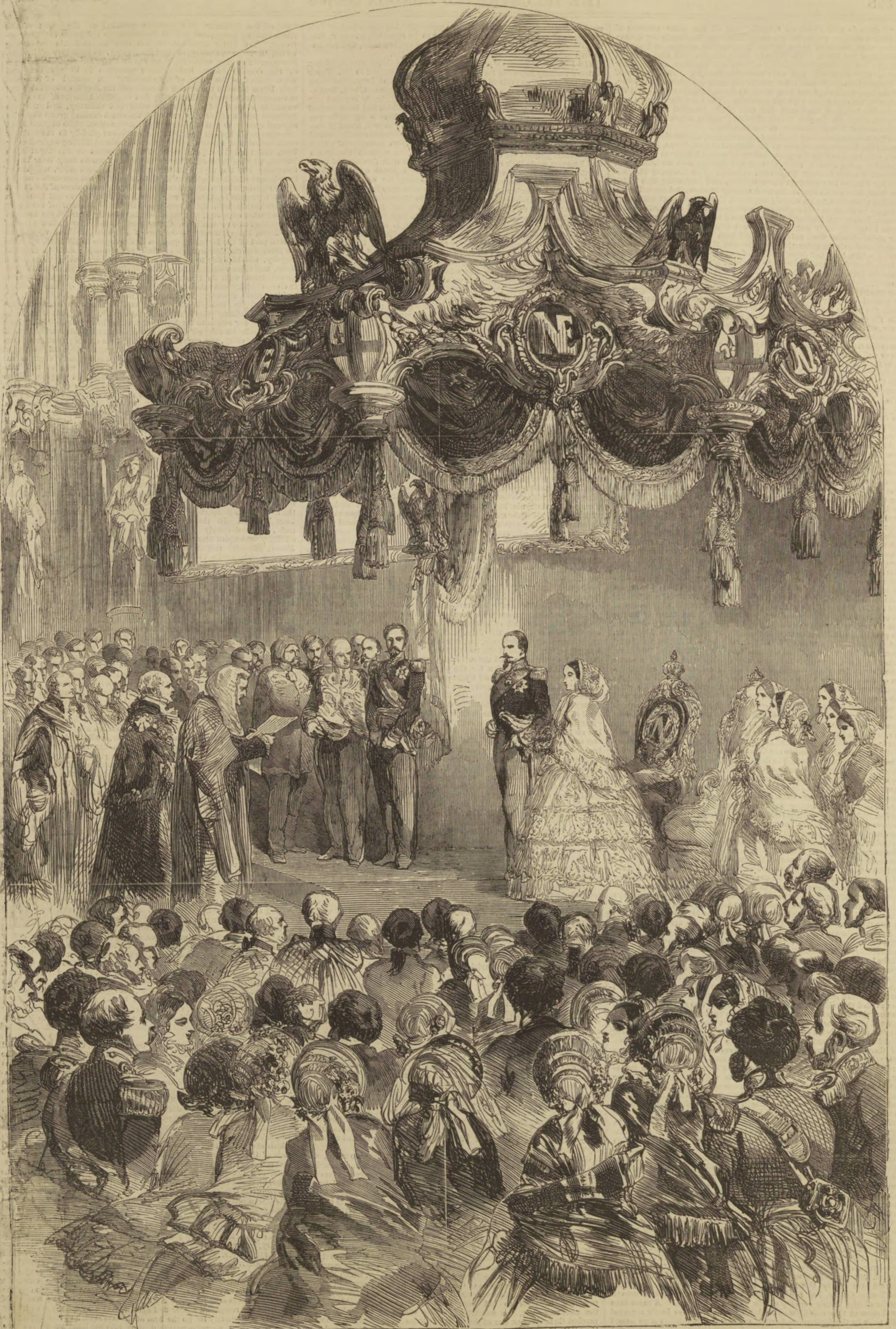
To describe this great feast in detail, with its "Bisques d'Ecrevisses,"





RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AT THE GRAND ENTRANCE, WINDSOR CASTLE.





GRAND RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, BY THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION, IN THE GUILDHALL.  
THE RECORDER READING THE ADDRESS.



its "Potage de nids d'oiseaux Chinois," and all the other varieties of the French culinary nomenclature, would trench too much upon our space; besides, what we have to do with is the Imperial visitors, and not the delicacies of the table. His Majesty ate sparingly, and drank almost nothing; but the Empress evidently enjoyed her luncheon, and took her glass of wine gracefully and with moderate freedom. The manner of the Imperial couple to each other was of the most affectionate character, and the Empress's excellent flow of spirits showed the absurdity of all the reports of her discontent with her condition. The Lord Mayor gave two toasts—the health of the Queen, and that of the Imperial visitors. The Empress drank the Queen's health standing; and, in return for her own, again rose and bowed gracefully to the company.

At the termination of the feast, and while the return procession was being formed, the Emperor went over to the Marquis of Lansdowne, and chatted freely with him; and the Empress conferred the same honour on the Earl of Clarendon, going down to where he stood and chatting with his Lordship in the most friendly manner for several minutes. The Emperor also noticed Sir Charles Fox amongst the spectators, and beckoning him to his side shook hands with him in the most friendly manner, and seemed much gratified when Sir Charles warmly expressed his satisfaction at witnessing so happy an event as this ceremonial consummation of the cordial union between France and England. Another proof of the wish of our Imperial guests to gratify their English hosts was afforded in the hall, where they stood before the dais conversing with the distinguished group around, evidently in order that the whole of the occupants of the vast interior might have full opportunities of seeing their Majesties. While en route from the council-chamber to the hall, his Majesty's quick eye detected the portrait of Queen Hortense upon the wall. He paused for a moment, looked at it, and said, "This is kind indeed." Immediately after this little incident the Imperial party returned to their carriages, and the general company made a vigorous onslaught on the various buffets which the hospitality of the Corporation had prepared for their refectory.

In the evening her Majesty the Queen took her Imperial guests to the Opera, where great exertions had been made to render the interior fit to receive such illustrious company. The anxiety of the public to be present was evidenced by the enormous sums paid for boxes and stalls. The Lord Mayor was charged 80 guineas for his box, and as much as 50 guineas were given for a single stall. Even the stage was invaded—upwards of a hundred persons paying from £3 to £5 each for the privilege of standing with the chorus during the performance of the National Anthem. The State box exhibited the fittings of the Royal visit in 1848, when "The Huguenots" was performed, and occupied the centre of the grand tier and that of the two immediately above it. The fronts of all the circles of boxes were hung with white and silver draperies, and festoons of flowers, having a light and cheerful effect which harmonised admirably with the gaily-coloured dresses of the fair occupants of the boxes. The illustrious visitors did not arrive till near ten o'clock, when the first act of the opera was over. They were attended by a numerous and brilliant cortège, composed of the distinguished ladies and gentlemen of both countries who formed the suites of the French and British Sovereigns. As the Emperor and Empress, the Queen and Prince Albert, came forward to the front of the box, a loud shout of welcome rang through the house, and was prolonged for some minutes, hats and handkerchiefs waving in every direction. At the same time the orchestra struck up "Partant pour la Syrie," while the cheers waxed louder and louder, and the Emperor and Empress acknowledged the compliment by bowing repeatedly. "God Save the Queen" followed, and was received with the warmest demonstrations of loyalty. When the Royal visitors had taken their seats and the house became quiet, the curtain rose and the performance went on. At the end of the opera there was another demonstration. After a short interval the curtain rose and exhibited the stage, covered not only with the members of the establishment, but with a crowd of persons who had paid high prices for places upon it. The two national airs were again performed, but their order was reversed, "God Save the Queen" being sung first, and "Partant pour la Syrie" played afterwards. The Royal visitors then departed. The opera was "Fidelio," and included in the cast the appearance of a *débütante*, Mlle. Jenny Ney; but little attention was paid by the audience to anything but the occupants of the Royal box. Had criticism been desirable, it would have been a feat of wonderful literary dexterity, as the critics were so admirably placed that they could neither hear, see, nor understand, and consequently were obliged to amuse themselves during their stay in the theatre by an attentive contemplation of the ceiling, to which they sat in very near proximity. After the Royal party had left, our old favourite Fanny Cerito burst upon the stage with some of her bounding steps, and received a kind welcome and generous meed of applause. The crowds in the street on this occasion were enormous; and, the time being night, still greater precautions were taken by the police than for the visit to Guildhall.

Friday was a hard day's work for the pleasure-seekers of the Court, and must have tolerably satiated all parties concerned. The programme for this day included the visit to the Crystal Palace, and the evening concert at the Palace of Buckingham. The Royal carriages left the Palace at twenty minutes past eleven, for Sydenham, thus giving the Emperor and Empress a splendid opportunity of admiring the imposing beauty of the country between Kennington and Penge-hill. His Majesty might look in vain anywhere out of England for villas so trim, parks and gardens so well kept, or fields so green and mellow as those with which the whole route is studded. The Crystal Palace is itself finely situated; but, whatever its admirers may say to the contrary, there is nothing very strikingly beautiful in its appearance from the road. It looks, in truth, like what it is—an immense conservatory—the amplification of the Palm-house at Kew; while the two unsightly towers which are now nearly finished, remind one of the shot-towers at Waterloo-bridge—so dark and dismally do they contrast with the light tracery of the Palace, and those handsome bays with which the taste of Mr. Owen Jones has relieved the monotonous vastness of the original design. The arrangements did not allow of a visit to Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins, who is always to be found in the bosom of his antediluvian family—putting leather wings on his Pterodactyles, or devising some new costume for his pet Iguanodon. We fear that the habits of this gentle creature in dress are expensive, as we generally observe him in a new coat (of paint) at each successive visit to the Crystal Palace. The Company had determined to make the most, commercially, of the interesting occasion. They could not, like Mr. Gye, sell the boxes at fabulous prices to the curious; but they hit upon a very ingenious plan for procuring a subsidy to help the next dividend. Season-tickets for the unexhausted portion of the year were advertised at a guinea each—being virtually a guinea for seeing the Queen and her Imperial guests; and the crowded state of the interior indicated that many persons must have availed themselves of the offer. The company was supposed to consist of shareholders, ticket-holders, and exhibitors; and, seeing that the first are scattered all over the country, and that the last have gradually dwindled away to a very reduced number, the great bulk of the company on Friday, must have been the ticket-holders both of the old and new classification. All these persons had to amuse themselves as they best could for a rather lengthy period, while the directors and officials were escorting her Majesty and her illustrious guests round the interior of the building. It is not our purpose here to write a description of the Fine Art Courts, but to record the Royal progress through the Palace, and the incidents which occurred. The Royal carriages arrived at about half-past twelve o'clock, and, after a short pause in the Royal refreshment-rooms, a cortège was formed—the Queen and Emperor taking the lead, the Empress and Prince following, and then the representatives of the two Courts, in gay morning toilette. Mr. Laing and Sir Joseph Paxton were in immediate attendance on the Sovereigns, as was also Sir Charles Fox, with whom the Emperor freely and repeatedly conversed in the course of the promenade. On Mr. Francis Fuller devolved the duty of escorting the ladies of the Royal and Imperial suites, and that gentleman performed the very agreeable duty with his accustomed politeness and success. In the cortège were also Messrs. Henderson and Cochrane, to whose united exertions the Palace owes its admirable solidity of construction; and Messrs. Farquhar, Anderson, Leech, and Lushington, the remaining members of the directoral body. The superintendents of the Exhibitors' department, Messrs. Deane and Belshaw, had the honour of conducting the illustrious party over the various courts. Of course, with such a limited space of time to be disposed of, and such a collection of works of art to be inspected, nothing but the most cursory glance could be afforded to each; still the Imperial visitors found time to pause for a moment before each of the more conspicuous chefs-d'œuvre, and ask questions concerning them of their ciceroni. Mr. Owen Jones was at his post amongst his Egyptian family, and escorted the party through that Court, thence through the Greek and Roman Courts, and finally to the Alhambra, the great architectural wonder of the native country of the Empress Eugénie. A more than usual space of time was devoted to this beautiful court, so justly regarded with pride by the distinguished artist, and warm compliments were passed on its unrivalled beauties of design and construction. The only regret was that the Emperor and Empress had not time to hear Mr. Jones's explanations of those wonderful Moorish antiquities, in which he is at once so enthusiastic and profound. Mr. Fergusson was in attendance in the Assyrian Court; after a short inspection of which the cortège passed over to the dominions of Mr. Digby Wyatt, which range from the gloomy Byzantine through Gothic and Renaissance to the light and luxurious Italian period. The Empress gazed with seeming interest on the monu-

mental effigies of the Gothic Queens, and made many inquiries about the rare specimens of the Renaissance Court. It is to be regretted, however, that the Ghiberti Gates were not pointed out; but time, luncheon, and the impatient public alike precluded the possibility of delay.

The Empress stopped for a moment in the Italian Court, on recognising a statue recently imported from Seville, and eagerly turned to Mr. Wyatt for information about this friend from Fatherland. The inspection being now completed, the Queen, Empress, Emperor, and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Ladies of Honour, and attended by Mr. Laing and Sir Joseph Paxton, proceeded to a temporary balcony which had been erected in the garden front of the Central Transept; and here a spectacle was afforded which few who were so fortunate as to witness will speedily forget, and least of all the Imperial couple, who were themselves the central points of its attraction. On the terraces underneath upwards of 40,000 well-dressed people were densely crowded, who, the moment the Queen and Empress made their appearance, greeted them with fervent and long-continued cheering. Then the Emperor had his separate ovation, which was so earnest as to keep him bowing and smiling for several minutes; and last, and certainly not least in fervency, rose a cheer for Prince Albert, who, with commendable good taste, had, up to this moment, kept himself rather in the back of the balcony. Her Majesty the Queen was radiant with smiles and condescension, and, gracefully taking the Empress by the hand, led her to the front of the balcony, when, it is hardly necessary to add, the cheering was again and again renewed, with deafening vigour. It was certainly a sight rarely to be equalled in interest, these two young and graceful women—one the Queen Regnant of the mightiest empire in the world; and the other the chosen consort of that remarkable man who, having, by his personal boldness, won an Imperial crown, has ever since been winning the good opinion of mankind by the dignity and efficiency with which he wears it—standing thus, hand in hand, in front of a vast multitude, who had assembled mainly in their honour. The beauty of the prospect evidently struck the Empress and Emperor, as both pretty plainly indicated by their gestures. That nothing might be wanting to complete the novelty and attraction, the great central fountains, so long the subject of alternate hopes and fears on the part of the public, commenced playing, producing a magnificent series of jets, which glistened brilliantly in the sunbeams. The company who had waited on the esplanade so patiently all the morning had now their reward, since with the Royal group in the balcony, the play of the fountains, and the strains of the bands, which commenced playing "Partant pour la Syrie," the splendour of the surrounding scene, and the fineness of the day, a combination of attraction was produced of which the most favoured visit of the interior could not have the slightest conception.

After a lapse of some moments the Queen and her guests retired to the Transept, and the people outside made a sudden rush to the various entrances, to avail themselves of the privilege which they had been promised when the Royal party retired to luncheon. This meal was served in that portion of the Palace which has recently been used as a picture-gallery, but which has been, by the decorative skill of Messrs. Jackson and Graham, transformed into a handsome banquetting-room, with painted ceiling, graceful violet-coloured draperies, and gold ornaments; the glass sides being covered with worked muslin hangings, lined throughout with delicate green. The vestibule has been hung with crimson cloth and costly mirrors; and all this magic change was wrought in the space of time elapsing from the previous Friday. The repast was prepared by the Queen's servants, without the slightest interference on the part of the Crystal Palace restaurant. Here may be a proper place to mention that a member of the Court communicated to Mr. Belshaw the great satisfaction of her Majesty with all the arrangements; adding that he had never seen the Queen in better spirits, or exhibiting a greater appearance of enjoyment.

The retirement of the Royal party was the signal for the entrance of the sovereign people. In they poured through all the entrances, and it required the exertions of whole armies of policemen to keep the central passage clear, and preserve the transept platform from intrusion. This erection, which was but of modest pretensions, was raised half a dozen steps on each side from the floor, and was covered with crimson cloth. In the centre was a high pole, decorated with laurel, and surmounted with a trophy of the colours of the two nations. Two green banners with the Imperial cipher completed the artificial decorations; but nature had also been called into requisition for the supply of a profusion of beautiful flowers, which gave colour and fragrance and freshness to the whole. The effect of this platform was pretty and simple, but not sufficiently strong to distract the public attention from the Royal group who were to be its temporary occupants. By an excellent arrangement of the police, the front rank of the company all through the line of promenade was made to consist exclusively of ladies, so that, not only was the pictorial effect improved, but an excellent security taken for the preservation of order. As in the case of "the thin red line" at Balaklava, there were no Cossacks who would be hardy enough to dislodge these fair battalions. It was soon, however, deepened by many a row, by anxious lovers, husbands, and fathers; and the first gallery was before long equally crowded. There was not, however, the slightest confusion; but every one waited patiently for the egress of the Royal party from the Banqueting Saloon. On their reappearance the cheering was renewed, and gradually increased in volume as they approached the Transept, round which, of course, the greatest numbers of the company had congregated. The Queen ascended the platform, accompanied by the Empress Eugénie, and both Sovereigns took their seats, followed by the Emperor and Prince Albert, the former sitting on the Queen's right hand, the latter on the Empress's left. The whole party, however, soon again rose in acknowledgment of the salutations of the company, the Crystal Palace band struck up the French national air, and the second of the magnificent tableaux was formed, which might be said to be the great features of the day's proceedings.

The appearance of the great Central Transept on the opening day will be recalled by the public, but the effect of this day's pageant was considered by those who had seen both to be far surpassing its predecessor. It was at once the climax and the conclusion of the day's proceedings, as the Royal party slowly retired immediately after the lines were broken, and the vast company scattered themselves over the building, some to look at the objects of art, but the greater portion in search of creature comforts, of which the Messrs. Staples, to whom the commissariat is entrusted, had provided a plentiful supply.

When the Royal and Imperial party finally emerged from the Crystal Palace, they found all the pleasant hedge-rows lined with people, who greeted them with such a cheer as Englishmen only know how to give; and the Royal carriages having drawn up at the entrance, they bade their adieus to the authorities and started off at a rapid rate for town. In the evening her Majesty gave a concert at Buckingham Palace, at which the whole of the two Courts, all the foreign ministers, and about five hundred of the *élite* of the nobility were present. Mr. Laing, the Chairman of the Crystal Palace Company, had the honour of an invitation. The Court newsmen describes in an ecstasy of admiration the dresses and jewels of the Queen and Empress, the decorations of the rooms, and the radiant glow of the gold and silver plate. Choice exotics filled every niche, and the great musical celebrities of the Opera performed a selection of the choicest musical morceaux. Although it was Budget night in Parliament, the collective wisdom forgot taxation and the war, broke up early, and donning their Court suits and girding on their rapiers, which are formidable only to their own shins, wended to the palace to air their best Court bows and expand in the presence of royalty. The Emperor wore his newly-acquired garter, and the brilliant star of the order glittered on his breast. With the concerts terminated the sixth day's proceedings.

On Saturday morning the "Chant du Départ" was sounded, and the French Sovereigns and Court took a reluctant leave of their illustrious hosts. An imposing cortège once more entered the Bricklayers' Arms station, of which the escort of the Royal Horse Guards Blue formed by no means the least imposing feature. The journey down to Dover was as nearly as possible a repetition of the journey up to town as regarded the railway arrangements. The Directors attended and travelled down to Dover with the Imperial party; and Captain Barlow and Mr. Way delivered them safely on the platform. The Mayor of Dover was in attendance, and received, to his great delight, a present from the Emperor's own hand, of a magnificent gold snuff-box, with the Emperor's cipher jewelled on blue enamel. At Dover, the indefatigable landlord of the Lord Warden Hotel (Mr. Hake) had made arrangements for receiving the Emperor and Court; but they passed rapidly on to the Admiralty-pier, which had (under the active superintendence of Captain Herrick) been prepared for their reception. The Militia were again in attendance; and the townsfolk mustered in force to bid the visitors good-bye. A number of the workmen—not, we understood, those belonging to the pier—had perched themselves on one of the piles of stones immediately overlooking the platform, and directly exposed to the gaze of the Emperor and Empress the moment they set foot on the pier. Their not over-clean faces and rough moleskin jackets did not add much to the general picturesqueness of effect, nor was there anything peculiarly poetic in the great hunks of bread and cheese with which they continuously fortified themselves against the anti-sanitary influences of the sea breeze. Admiral de Chabannes, who came down before the arrival of the special train, to see that everything was in proper order for the embarkation

of the Emperor, was perfectly horrified at the aspect of this rough-looking group, and applied frantically to the police for their removal. The latter appealed to the men in moleskin in moving terms, to their nationality, to their hospitality, to their love of the picturesque. But they were snugly ensconced aloft, far beyond the reach of the dreaded bâton, had a day's provision in their wallets, and were "deaf to the voice of the charmer." A council of war was held below between the French Admiral and the English constables, and it was at last determined that, seeing that the dislodgement of the enemy would be a work of considerable delay and difficulty, and that the Emperor was momentarily expected, the rough-looking group should be allowed quietly to retain their conspicuous position. The subjects of all this discussion had, in the meantime, continued placidly to munch their bread and cheese, disturbed only by an occasional fitting aspiration for beer, and were the objects of wistful admiration to the Royal Bucks Militia, who had been shivering in the spray from an early hour in the morning. For the voyage an arrangement had been made, which must be taken as a high compliment to the efficiency of our mercantile marine. The Emperor, it appeared, not satisfied with the performance of the *Pelican* on the voyage to England, directed Admiral Chabannes to put himself in communication with Mr. Churchward, the active Manager of the Postal Steam-packet company, and the latter immediately placed at the Imperial service the fine new steamers, *Empress* and *Queen*—the chefs-d'œuvre of Mr. Mare, the eminent ship-builder of Blackwall. These vessels had formed part of the Imperial squadron in the voyage to England, when the Emperor was enabled to judge of their performances; and his Imperial Majesty, who bids fair to be soon as good a judge of a ship as he is of a horse, was more than satisfied with the arrangement of his Admiral. The special train with its illustrious freight arrived at Dover shortly after twelve o'clock, and the Imperial party was soon on the platform making their adieus. The Emperor warmly shook hands with the Prince and the Duke of Cambridge, and the latter had severally the honour of kissing the hand of *l'Impératrice*, who was also most gracious in her adieus to the ladies of the English Court. The steamer was alongside blowing off her steam in a most independent manner, as if impatient of delay, and our rough-looking friends on the pile of stones, enjoyed the whole scene with evident complacency. They did not forget their politeness, however, but gave the Empress a hearty cheer as she gracefully stepped on board the steamer. The offing was at this time filled with rather an imposing squadron, French and English. There were: English, the *Black Eagle*, *Orion* (90), *Pylades* (21), *Ocean* (16), and some smaller vessels-of-war. Of the French, there were the fine screw corvettes, *D'Assas* and *Corse*, *Pelican*, *Pétrel*, and *Bayonnaise*, all of which "dressed ship," and expended a considerable quantity of complimentary gunpowder in honour of the Imperial voyageurs. The white foam of the ground-swell gave indications that a heavy sea might be expected in crossing the Channel. But *n'importe*—the ship was good, the men were skilful, and the chief passengers had been born under a lucky planet. The Imperial ensign fluttered at the main, and near it, in peaceful rivalry, the brave old Union Jack. The directors of the company, Messrs. Churchward and De Clepsedel, were in charge, and the good ship moved off from the shore with every prospect of a prosperous voyage. The Prince and the Duke returned to the hotel, and partook of luncheon, and they started for town, having first expressed their unqualified approbation of all the hotel arrangements of the Lord Warden. In the meantime the *Empress* was ploughing the main, followed closely by her consort, the *Queen*, which was with difficulty restrained from closer rivalry. Her gallant English captain, Moore, gloomily restrained her speed, and the chief engineer heaved many a sigh as he occasionally let off the steam, which he would much rather have employed in getting a revolution or two more out of the paddle-wheels. Early in the voyage a clumsy-looking boat with a white funnel crossed the bows of the Imperial vessel, politely blowing her smoke into the eyes of the Emperor and Empress, but the latter were soon beyond the reach of this pattern of English politeness, and the offender was obliged to give up the attempt to keep within annoyance reach of the mail steamer. The Emperor and Empress remained on deck the whole passage over, and stood the voyage well; while the British Ambassador and the French Chamberlain consoled one another in the agonies of sea-sickness on couches below. During the voyage Messrs. Churchward and De Clepsedel were presented, and the Emperor conversed with them freely, passing many compliments on the performance of their noble vessel. By the Emperor's command the vessels lingered as they left the English shore; and the cheers from the shore could for a long time be heard wafting to him, in sounds becoming every moment fainter and fainter, the sweet but sad music of farewell.

The voyage to Boulogne was performed in less than two hours; and on arriving at that port the comparatively quiet appearance of the landing-place presented a singular contrast to the animation which had recently been exhibited at Dover. The crowd was, however, considerable, and the reception of the Emperor was, after the French manner, favourable and hearty. There were a good many cries of "Vive l'Empereur," and one or two of "Bon retour," all of which his Majesty acknowledged with much calmness and courtesy. Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers and the local authorities were in attendance, and the Imperial party soon drove off to the Marine Hotel, certainly one of the finest hotels in France, and which had been specially engaged for the Emperor's accommodation. Here we should have taken leave of the Emperor; but on learning that his Majesty had promised Lord Alfred Paget a military parade on the following day, we waited for a spectacle for which we are fain to confess an almost French predilection. The vicinity of the Army of the North gave every facility; and in order that the Empress also might, without inconvenience, witness it, it was appointed to take place on the sands in front of the Marine Hotel. It was certainly a magnificent sight, and the locality chosen permitted of its being seen to the best advantage by the thousands assembled. The sands in front of the hotel are beautifully smooth and level, forming a splendid parade-ground; while the sea foaming and surging beyond served the purpose of a splendid frame to the picture. The troops in coming to the ground, had to round a bluff headland that bounded the view in the direction of the Camp at Honvault, so that every regiment, as it came up, could be distinguished by those who were versed—and that was every French man, woman, and child present—in military matters. On they came, seemingly as innumerable as the host of Xerxes, but much better disciplined, and regularly took their places on the ground marked out for their reception. A polite French officer, among the spectators, obligingly informed us that the force to be reviewed consisted of seventeen battalions of the line, four regiments of Chasseurs de Vincennes, four companies du Génie, one regiment of Hussars, and four squadrons of Dragoons, in all about 32,000 men—a number which, if reviewed in Hyde-park, would attract all England as spectators. They looked truly a most formidable force, and were calculated to give the English spectators a profound appreciation of the huge physical power of our ally.

While they were being marshalled on the strand, Captain Smithett and Messrs. Churchward and Jenkins were sent for, the first to receive the Cross of the Legion of Honour, the others splendid jewelled breastplates testimonials of the Emperor's appreciation of their exertions for his comfort; and afterwards the Emperor and Empress proceeded to church in Capécure, accompanied by the Court and Lord Alfred Paget. Two or three little accidents distinguished this part of the day's proceedings, which tend to show the popularity of the Emperor and Empress, both with the English and their own subjects. Amongst the former we noticed a stalwart gentleman from the Emerald Isle, escorting a graceful and lively little Englishwoman, who quite astonished the French by the energy with which she pushed her way to the front of the line, in order to get a good view of the Empress. Her gigantic cavalier alternately coaxed and bullied with his national ferocity and good-humour, and at last they stood erect, and defiant of gendarmes, close to the *porte cochère* of the hotel, awaiting the return of the Imperial party. As the Emperor descended from the carriage, our Irish friend roared out, in a voice of thunder, "God bless the Emperor!" and his fair companion exclaimed with equal energy, although not quite so much vocal power, "God bless the Empress!" The French people around started back in amazement, as if a shell from Le Corse had fallen suddenly amongst them; but the Emperor and Empress, to whom an English cheer is by this time not quite such a novelty, smilingly turned round and severally bowed and curtseyed to their insular admirers. The little English lady, nothing daunted, performed an emulative curtsey; the gentleman made his best Tipperary bow; and the Emperor and Empress passed laughingly into the hotel. The other incidents brought out the charitable feelings of the Sovereigns in a way which gave great satisfaction to the pious poissards of Boulogne. As the Empress walked along the front of the hotel she recognised a poor and aged woman amongst the crowd. Her Majesty immediately let go the arm of her husband, and running over to the poor woman, poured a bountiful alms into her hand amid the sincere cheers of the bystanders. A similar appeal was subsequently made to the Emperor by a poor fellow in a blouse, who suddenly dropped on his knees, and poured forth a voluble tale of distress. The Emperor went over and spoke kindly to him, then calling his valet Leon to him, the latter gave the poor man a gold piece, and, by the Emperor's directions, took down the petitioner's name and address. This act and the manner secured for the Emperor a cher



quite as fervent as that which had previously been accorded to the Empress. By this time the preparations for the review had been completed; and the Emperor, having mounted his beautiful chestnut charger, descended, accompanied by Lord Alfred Paget and a brilliant staff, to the sands. His Majesty passed slowly along the ranks, exchanging salutes as he rode past, and distributing the decorations which had been awarded to the Army of the North. This ceremony occupied a considerable time, but was scarcely intelligible to the crowd who lined the distant road. One individual, who had been favoured with a pass by Colonel Fleury, narrowly escaped decapitation from an infuriated gendarme, who, being unfortunately unable to read the rather cramped writing of the Colonel, revenged his educational deficiencies on the person who had so awkwardly brought them to light. It is needless to add that the demonstration was quite sufficient to cause the precipitate retirement of the too curious stranger.

The ceremony having terminated, the Emperor returned to the esplanade in front of the hotel, and stopping his horse immediately under the decorated balcony on which stood the Empress and her ladies, remained like an equestrian statue, while the whole army marched slowly past in regiments. As each regiment came up the Eagle was lowered, the Emperor raised his hat, and immediately resumed his statuesque attitude, while his noble horse showed his perfect training by emulating his rider's impassibility. His Imperial Majesty remained fixed in his conspicuous position until the last drumbony of the immense army had passed; and then rode to the railway station, accompanied by the Empress, in a carriage and four; and in a very few minutes the Imperial couple were on their road to Paris. Thus terminated the last act of the Imperial Visit to England—an act of the highest political importance; and with respect to which this unpretending *résumé* will, it is to be hoped, form at least reliable materials for future and more ambitious historians.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

**THE HORATIO**, late 24 guns, now two monster guns, is being rapidly equipped by the artificers at Portsmouth. The minimum weight of her shot is to be 3 cwt., the maximum 10 cwt. elongated shot, passing through a rifle-cut barrel; the minimum charge of powder is to be 30 lbs., the maximum unlimited, according to distance required.

**NEW CONTRACT FOR RIFLES, SMALL-ARMS, &c.**—Government has entered into a new and extensive contract for Minié rifles, plain bore muskets, rifled cavalry carbines, and revolvers. The number of rifles and muskets is stated to be 70,000, and 5000 revolvers. The supply will be at the rate of 3000 per week at the least, until the number is completed. A great portion of the contract for rifles, and the whole of the revolvers, have been taken by an eminent American firm, and the remainder by the manufacturers of Liege (Belgium), Birmingham, and London.

The firm of Losh, Wilson, and Bell, whose works are at Walker, on the Tyne, have received an order from the Turkish Government to manufacture 35,000 shells and some mortars of the largest calibre. Previously to being forwarded to Turkey, the shells will have to pass an examination at Woolwich, where they will be filled with their combustible material and made ready for use. The firm are manufacturing 500 shells a day, and a large quantity awaits shipment.

In addition to the reinforcements to embark from England, the following battalions and regiments will immediately proceed to the seat of war, viz., the 15th Light Infantry, 54th Foot, 66th ditto, and 92nd ditto, from Gibraltar; 72nd Light Infantry, from Malta; 2nd Battalion First Royal Scots, from the Ionian Islands; 31st Foot, from ditto; 48th Foot, from ditto; First Battalion 71st Highland Light Infantry, from ditto; and 82nd, from ditto. The above-mentioned regiments will each be augmented to 1200 bayonets from their respective depot companies in England.

OFFICIAL instructions have been received at Southampton to fit up the General Screw Company's steamer *Indiana*, for conveying cavalry to the Crimea.

A NUMBER of the men belonging to the Denbighshire Royal Rifles have claimed their bounty and discharge; but, in consequence of an address from Major Wynn, which was read to them in Welsh, inviting them to re-enlist, with an offer of an additional bounty of £1, the majority returned to the regiment, and their conduct has been unexceptionable.

NEARLY 150 Poles and Fins who for some time have been in the barracks at Millbay, Plymouth, with the other prisoners taken at Bomarsund last year, having volunteered for service against the Russians, have been temporarily removed on board the *Royal William* ordinary guard-ship at Devonport. This was a necessary precaution from the hostile feelings evinced by their Russian comrades on hearing they had offered to serve against Russia.

**THE FIRST BALTIC CAPTURE OF 1855.**—MEMEL, April 19.—The *Myran*, *Kenevich*, from Lubek, with a cargo of coals, was captured off Libau, April 17, by her Majesty's steamer *Desperate*, and has been brought to this port.

**SIR J. LIDDELL**, Medical Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, and at present in the Royal Hospital, Greenwich, is appointed to succeed Sir William Burnett, as Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy, in consequence of which Sir John Richardson, Medical Inspector of the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar, has sent in his resignation, he being the senior medical officer of the service, and not liking to serve under a junior—Sir John Liddell standing two below him on the list.

HER Majesty's new steam-yacht *Victoria* and *Albert*, Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman, is ordered to be equipped for the Queen's reception and service by the 1st of July. In the interim the old *Victoria* and *Albert* (now *Osborne*) is to receive stores, and be prepared for service in the event of a sea-going yacht being required for use by the Queen before the new one is ready.

THE following detachments of cavalry are under orders to proceed to the Crimea early in May, viz.:—5th Dragoon Guards (Princess Charlotte of Wales), 1 subaltern, 1 sergeant, 30 privates, and 173 troop horses, from the cavalry depot at Newbridge, to embark at Kingstown; 4th (Queen's Own) Light Dragoons, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, 50 privates, and 200 troop horses, from Brighton, to embark at Southampton; 10th (Prince of Wales's) Royal Hussars, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, and 50 privates, with 80 troop horses, from the cavalry depot, Maidstone, to embark at Southampton; 12th Royal Lancers, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, and 40 privates, with 80 troop horses, from the cavalry depot, Maidstone, to embark at Southampton; 17th Lancers, 2 officers, 4 sergeants, and 100 privates, with 160 troop horses, from Brighton, to embark at Southampton: the first division, consisting of 1 Major, 3 Captains, 4 subalterns, 12 sergeants, and 240 mounted men, of the 15th Royal Hussars, from Exeter, will embark on board the *Kent* and *Chalmers* transports at Plymouth; the second division will embark shortly afterwards, and the head-quarters of the regiment, comprising the staff, will follow. It being expected that the draught for the 12th Lancers will reach the Crimea before the regiment arrives from India, the detachment will do duty with the 17th Lancers in the interim.

**THE GREAT TASMANIA**, a large new clipper ship, built by Mr. Donald McKay, of Boston, and chartered by Messrs. James Baines and Co. with the intention of adding her to their "Black Ball" line of Australian packets, is being fitted, in the Sandon Dock, Liverpool, as an hospital-ship, and will be ready to take her departure for her destination in a few days. In a few days she had been transformed from an ordinary emigrant-ship to a floating hospital for the reception of sick and wounded soldiers. On the two decks there is permanent accommodation for upwards of 500 invalids, which can be extended to 1000, or more, by slinging hammocks from the beams. The *Great Tasmania* will take out a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, and a number of horses for the cavalry regiments—well padded and efficiently sheltered boxes for which have been erected on the main deck. The greatest novelty in the matter lies in the fact, that Messrs. Baines and Co. contract with Government to feed the troops both on the outward and homeward passages for so much per day. Under the terms of their agreement, they have already placed on board upwards of 1000 tons of stores and water in anticipation of the vessel being ready for sea in a few days.

A CORRESPONDENT relates that, when the Emperor's train stopped at Tunbridge, a beautiful little girl, about four years old, was carried to the door of the carriage in which the Empress was seated, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers, which seemed to give her Majesty the highest gratification, as, upon one of the flowers dropping off, she was observed most carefully to wrap it in paper.

**THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.**—When the Queen and the Prince, and their illustrious visitors, the Emperor and Empress of the French, took their seats on the dais, in the centre of the Crystal Palace, to hear the band play "Partant pour la Syrie," a photographer was busily at work in the gallery close by, and, by the help of his magic art, secured a most charming picture of the imposing scene. Mr. Delamotte was successful in obtaining an instantaneous picture of her Majesty and the Court at the inauguration ceremony last May; and we think he has been equally happy in the point of view he took last week. The present photograph is published by Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, of Hatton-garden.

**RUSSIAN, LOOK OUT!**—When the arrival of the first four English vessels was signalled to Eleonore by the commander of the *Cronborg*, a general hail of "Hallo! hallo! Lugars" (look out) was addressed by the skippers in the roads to the few Russian craft that were warily threading their way through the drifting ice.

#### NAPOLEON III., EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

ONE of the most remarkable phases of the history of the human mind is the change that has taken place in the opinion of mankind as to the true character of the present Emperor of the French. We have not on record a welcome so enthusiastic and universal given to any Sovereign by the people of this country. Yet, but a very few years ago he was regarded with, to say the least, aversion, by those who now receive him with acclamation. The explanation of this seeming contradiction is very simple. The English people are devoted to the constitutional and representative system of government; and they denounced Louis Napoleon because he destroyed an imitation of it in France. But they have since seen what use he has made of the power he gained so arbitrarily. They see, also, that the French themselves live under his rule with something more than contentment; and they, therefore, greet the Emperor in his character of chosen representative of the people over whom he rules.

The life of the Emperor of the French has all the characteristics of a romance. Born the presumptive heir to a throne the greatest and most imposing of modern times, he had scarcely passed the earliest stage of childhood, when the sudden downfall of his family forced him, with his parents, into exile, and what seemed an eternal proscription. Tenderly nurtured in his infancy, and sedulously trained in his adolescence, by a mother who never lost, amidst the most discouraging reverses, the hope that fortune would change, and that the star of the Bonapartes would regain the ascendant, the young Prince, on reaching the age of manhood, had mastered the knowledge and accomplishments proper to his station and possible destiny, with the facility and grasp which seem natural to his race. Then came the consuming passion for action, for fame. Plunged for a time in the vortex of Italian revolutions, the young Prince was only saved from the fate of unsuccessful insurrectionists by the courage of his mother, who, braving proscription, hurried him through France to England, and from thence back to their tranquil home on the Lake of Constance. Already, at the age of two-and-twenty, this young man had fought, and had alarmed the jealousy of the Orleans Government. The name of Bonaparte had once more surged up to the surface of European affairs; had been the watchword of Italian freedom, and the *mot d'ordre* of French reaction. Scarcely had the young Prince returned to Switzerland, when he was invited to place himself at the head of the Polish Insurrection, with the crown of Poland, reconquered, as his reward; and, hardly had he closed his eyes to this glittering prospect, when he felt himself bound (for similar reasons in both cases) to decline declaring himself a candidate for the throne of Portugal. Flattering proofs, these, to the young Bonaparte, now the representative of the Imperial pretensions of his family, that the world was not oblivious of the genius and the great deeds of its founder. What powerful stimulants to a career of enterprise and action! But enterprise was for the present limited to preparation by study, and the production of the results of thinking; and action had no wider field than the little federal army of the Cantons, in which the young Prince, after being made an honorary citizen of Thurgau, had received the grade of Captain of Artillery. The attempt at Strasbourg, purposely regarded as the act of a madman, is proved by subsequent events only to have been a miscalculation in point of time; it opened a new scene in the life of this Prince, already chequered with so many romantic incidents. Conveyed, a State prisoner, to the shores of America, he cannot resist his growing faith in his destiny, and returns to Europe to renew his assault on the Monarchy of July by the descent on Boulogne—another act of "folly" for which nearly eight millions of Frenchmen have since given him absolution—and to meet his reward in six years of close imprisonment in a State fortress. A doom, this, merited if he was dangerous, too severe if he was a madman, but destined to be the turning point of his fortunes. Here, in the silence and retirement of a prison, he meditated deeply on his own past, and on the future of his family and country; and the ostensible, but not the sole result of his thinking was a series of works which commanded the respect of most men, the admiration of many, and laid deep in the hearts of the French people the roots of a personal regard. Refused by Louis Philippe permission to visit on parole the death-bed of his father, he escapes from prison, but too late to close his parent's eyes: and he finds his way once more to England, aggrandised by an impolitic prosecution and an illogical punishment.

Are there not here the incidents of a romance, even if the active life of the Prince had stopped at this point? At that epoch were they part of the current coin of political knowledge? No. The world at large knew of the young Prince only this: that he had made two ridiculous and unsuccessful attempts to rouse the French nation in his favour. He was looked upon as a mad-headed youth, and although his published works placed him among the most remarkable and original thinkers of his time, the public persisted in believing that he was as destitute of talent as he appeared to be of prudence. It was a time when heroic and chivalrous characters were looked on with something worse than contempt. Success was the test of worth, and money, or its influence, was the proof of success. Louis Napoleon had neither success nor money; and, in England more especially, he fell below zero.

Strange that the interest of this acted romance suddenly became the most striking and intense at the very moment when it seemed about to expire. The Revolution of February, 1848, broke down the material barriers to the ambition of Prince Louis Napoleon. Soon the true state of public feeling in France became known, when he was elected President of the Republic, by a totality of votes of which his illustrious uncle even had scarcely dared to dream. The instincts of the people had responded to his call, but there was yet much to be done ere he could assert himself as he really was. There came the long struggle, sustained with such admirable patience and moderation, with the impracticable Assembly, and the effort to render useful its more impracticable Constitution. Then the final game between the President and the dynastic partisans—a strife of life for life, of liberty for liberty. Then the *coup d'état* with all its accompaniments of horror; the absolute so speedily pronounced by the assembled French nation; and finally the Empire, and all those triumphs, diplomatic and military, which are still passing before our eyes.

The people of England are now the sincere admirers and fast friends of the Emperor of the French, whose existence as the escaped prisoner of Ham, and at best in a very doubtful sense even a Prince at all, they scarcely condescended to notice when among them an exile, and guilty of that unpardonable crime, want of ready money. Do they know what is said of them elsewhere? That they are ever the worshippers of success; and that their homage to Louis Napoleon the Emperor has no less sordid motive. The English people are assuredly labelled by this imputation. They recognised in the President of the Republic, and later in the Emperor of the French, a spirit clear and sagacious, a political probity unparalleled, a firm will, and a moderate temper: they saw that, the more he developed himself, the grander grew the proportions of his character; that a largeness of soul, and a mind emancipated from the pettiness of tradition and routine, fitted him to embody in himself the greatness, the glory, and the individualism of the French nation. The success it was that enabled them to see; but it was not only the success that they saw, they admired the qualities which success had enabled their possessor to develop.

Yet our countrymen are not quite blameless in this regard. Such men as Napoleon III. do not spring forth fashioned and perfected in a day. You cannot make a man great by electing him Emperor. The material must have been there; and such a spirit must have alighted on many great and stern things ere attaining its present growth and strength. It was not a difficult matter to know the real worth of a man who had been so much before the world. It was at least a duty, if the task of inquiry was too great, not to lend credence to the tales of professional emissaries of the bourgeois Royalty, or the nascent Republic—each equally interested in depreciating and calumniating him who possessed the talisman that was to defeat both. Of the millions who now laud the Emperor of the French, how many know his real antecedents—what was thought, said, written, and done, by Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, the exile, the proscribed, the ridiculed insurrectionist, the escaped prisoner of State?

Thinking the occasion of the Imperial visit a favourable one for the purpose, we present our readers with an honest and impartial study of the life, thoughts, and actions of this Prince—as far removed from the indiscriminating praise and simulated fetichism of contemporary French flatterers, as from the passionate, shortsighted, and in many instances even the sordid, judgment of some Englishmen, who did as much injustice to themselves as to the object of their censure by their hasty and uncompromising condemnation.

(To be Continued.)

#### THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

VERY shortly after this letter is published the doors of the Palais de l'Industrie will be thrown open, by the command of the Emperor, attended by a brilliant Court—also, it is confidently believed here, by the Queen of England, and the Emperor and Empress of Austria. Still the incomplete state of the interior both of the Palace and the long Machinery Gallery, appears to contradict the reiterated assertion of the *Moniteur*. The progress is slow—very slow, when the time that now remains for preparations is considered. A little raised space in the Central Hall—only deal boards as yet—marks the spot where the Emperor's chair will be placed. The *phare* is once more in course of erection, and already its copper roof glistens in the sun; so Gerome's paintings will find conspicuous place in the building. The Astronomer Royal is also very busy with his Circle, in the eastern part of the Great Hall. In the British ground-floor space the exhibitors and the committee are very active, and on the whole in a forward state. Minton and Co. have placed some very fine tiles—one group being a facsimile of some laid by this firm at Clevedon, for the Duchess of Sutherland. In the British Gallery the stalls are nearly all completed; and the exhibitors only wait the clearance of the rubbish to arrange their goods upon them. Mr. Wyatt's stalls for his Indian collection are also in a forward state. Some unfortunate breakages have occurred—as, for instance, that of an altar-piece in Caen stone, forwarded by a London exhibitor; but these accidents are, I suppose, inseparable from the transport of so many cases.

Up to this time the English exhibitors appear to know nothing of the French Catalogue arrangements. No applications have been made from the Official Catalogue authorities to the British exhibitors for descriptions of their contributions. It is believed, however, that the Official Catalogue will be little more than a list of the names of all exhibitors. Among the British contributions, one that will astonish the French is Searle's boat, which now lies in the Central Hall, not very securely cased in boards.

Passing from the British to the other sections, we find them generally very far behindhand. Belgium and Austria are, after England, perhaps the most active. The former Power is in a very advanced state in the Southern Gallery—having some of its contributions already displayed. Among these are some excellent photographs from D'Hoy, of Ghent. Peeping over the gallery from this point we remark the striped packing-cases of Baden still lying undisturbed in the little South-Western Court. Spain and Portugal are advancing with their counters in the Western and North-Western Galleries; but the Eastern Gallery is still almost deserted. In the North-Western Gallery staircase two more painted windows have already been placed. They produce a pleasing effect. I should not forget to mention, however, while referring to painted glass, the fine specimens of Birmingham manufacture, taken from Westminster-hall, and now placed in the South-Eastern Gallery staircase of the Palace. The French ground-floor space, and the American space, are the least advanced. Only deal-board counters, here and there chalked with the names of the objects destined some time between this and October next to be displayed upon them, are to be seen. The French Booksellers' Court, in the north-eastern corner of the Great Hall, is an exception. But, at every point, we are assured that the French can do wonders of effect, in a few hours. All these rough deal counters will be covered and loaded as by enchantment. Skillfully-disposed drapery will cover ugly spots; the artist-workmen of Paris will produce the most marvellous results of their power.

The great Machinery Gallery and the Connecting Gallery are the weak points of the business. At the last hour it has been determined to erect a gallery round the old Panorama-building—this gallery to be devoted to the interesting purposes of a great buffet. This buffet will be reached by a connecting gallery that will run from the Southern Gallery of the Palace. The central space of the Panorama-building will be devoted, according to some authorities, to French furniture exclusively; according to others, to the separate exhibition of the State manufactures of the Sèvres, the Gobelins, &c. The Gobelins authorities are now arranging their tapestries in the north-eastern corner of the main building; but this fact rather strengthens the report that they are to be finally in the old Panorama-building, if we are to judge by past experience. I am informed that Messrs. Yorke and Co., the contractors who erected the Palace, have undertaken to erect the Connecting Gallery between the Machinery Gallery and the main building within one month from the time of signing the contract. This contract was signed, I apprehend, about ten days ago. But no person pretends to say that the two exhibitions will be connected on the 1st of May. Again, if they were so connected, the Machinery department would not be worth a visit at this early period. At the present time this enormous gallery presents to the eye of the visitor a tolerable idea of chaos. The agricultural implements are still bandaged in straw; machines are about to be built; the galleries within the gallery are space wholly unoccupied, or were a few days ago. I am certain that this gallery will not be worth a visit before the 1st of June; but it will then be the most original part of the Great Universal Exhibition.

In the vicinity of the Palace the Horticultural Exhibition is progressing vigorously. Hundreds of evergreens lie about, ready to be planted; and workmen are glazing the great hothouses. Before the principal entrance, workmen have been engaged during the last week laying down solid bitumen pavement; and huge rollers have been solidifying the gravel walk. A little farther off, speculators are busy arranging *comptoirs*, where exhibitors may expose for sale goods similar to those they have in the Palace. One of these establishments advertises 1500 counters to let; another, the International Bazaar, makes known that it has 500 counters to let. I am told that enormous rents are asked for these counters; whether they are obtained is a point which the proprietors cannot at the present moment explain to their entire satisfaction, according to the inquiries I have made.

Already many obvious strangers are to be seen in Paris. I met, yesterday, a Swiss on the Boulevards, dressed in the acknowledged costume of ballets, and familiar to many of your readers only in the realms of Oscar Byrne. Many Spaniards and provincial French people have also arrived. The latter are easily pointed out by the Parisians. They are, indeed, remarkable, in their short-waisted, close-cut coats, and thin, indescribable trousers and hats, on the male side; and by their wonderful caps, or still more wonderful bonnets (to Parisian ladies), on the female side.

In conclusion, I would earnestly advise all visitors who intend to spend an Exhibition week in Paris to postpone their journey till June or July. Everything will not be finally arranged before the end of June. The fault is not altogether with our graceful, hospitable hosts, the French; much of it is with exhibitors, who are even now calmly sending in contributions that should have been in the Palace two or three weeks ago. There is America—with its hundred exhibitors, and, I believe, its eight Commissioners—still unrepresented, occupying, to make the case more deplorable, space immediately opposite the principal entrances! What can the Imperial Commissioners do to remedy shortcomings like these?

In my next I hope to be able to give your readers a detailed account of the opening ceremony, together with a rapid description of the wonders that will be found in the various buildings which make up the Great Paris Universal Exhibition.

It may interest your readers to hear that the company who pretended to the exclusive right of sketching in the building, have been opposed at law by several Paris firms—as Susse and Co.—and have lost their pretensions claim.

**BRITISH PORCELAIN FOR THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.**—The competition in the Ceramic display will be very powerful; but we are persuaded that the excellence of our own art-manufacture will be well sustained in an "Imperial Dessert Service," which Messrs. Daniell, of New Bond-street, have prepared for the grand competitive display. This is certainly one of the most magnificent productions in porcelain ever manufactured in any country, and will place Coalbrookdale china high in the Ceramic show, and prove that there is no deficiency of native talent among us; but that, if such a spirited effort as the present meets with due encouragement, our porcelain must become, if it is not already, the most perfect of existing pottery. The colour of the service is turquoise blue, of even brilliancy. The plates are painted from the compositions of Watteau, and the exquisite miniature-like pencilling and colouring are extremely beautiful. The *comptoirs* are of chaste design, and Mr. Hancock has been very successful in the treatment of the Parian figures by which they are supported. The whole service, although of the most gorgeous description, is, in its gliding and decoration, eminent for chasteness and good taste. The whole is the work of English artists. On Wednesday, Mr. Daniell had the honour of submitting this magnificent dessert service to the inspection of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert.





THE GRAND STATE BANQUET IN ST. GEORGE'S HALL, WINDSOR CASTLE.



## THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XIV.)

IN addition to the time already lost in useless negotiations abroad, more time will necessarily be expended at home in explanations and the business of legislation will be interrupted next week by long speeches in reference to the failure of the business of diplomacy: *ex nihilo nihil fit* will receive ample illustration in a few days, when Lord John Russell, having returned from doing an infinite deal of nothing at Vienna, will have to talk an infinite deal of nothing in the House of Commons, by way of apology for the fruitlessness of his mission.

One would have thought that the consciousness of the very serious hardships to which our officers in the Crimea are exposed would have sobered down the dispositions of those young officers at home whose natural bent would incline them to those acts of frivolity, folly, and something worse, which have already, on more than one occasion, brought discredit on the military profession. Scarcely, however, had the public ceased to think of the case of Lieutenant Perry, when the subject is unpleasantly revived in one's recollection by the disgusting details of the conduct of two officers in the 30th Regiment, who have amused themselves by pulling a brother officer out of bed, dragging him into a room, and kicking him out again, after smearing his mouth with tallow, in an attempt to execute a threat that they would make him eat a candle. This may be the fun of the fast school of military "gents;" but the humour is of that coarse and extravagant kind which belongs to the tricks played by the Clown and Pantaloon in a pantomime.

The honour and safety of England would stand but a poor chance against an enemy if all our "officers and gentlemen" were of the class represented by the three parties in this disreputable affair—two of whom evinced a large amount of cowardice and blackguardism, while the third was degraded by forced submission to a series of the most debasing indignities. The matter has been dealt with by the Commander-in-Chief in a manner not very consistent with common sense, and in a style not by any means conformable to the rules of common English. He tells the culprits that they "may think themselves so far fortunate in having escaped the inevitable consequence" of their ungentlemanly conduct; but, as that only is "inevitable" which cannot be "escaped," the Commander-in-Chief has shown that the command of language is not one of his attributes. It seems that an apology had been made to the insulted officer, with which he was "quite satisfied," and it is natural that he should be, for no one who is liable to such insults as those above described can pretend to be very sensitive on the point of dignity. An individual who has been dragged out of bed and thrashed, while a candle has been smeared about his mouth, will fancy, no doubt, that the stains can be wiped away from his honour as easily as the candle-grease can be rubbed off his countenance. One of the delinquents, after having apologised for his ungentlemanly conduct, was found repeating the offence; and the Commander-in-Chief very properly intimated that "no reliance can be placed on Ensign Neville;" but, with the usual luck of many of those in the public service on whom there is "no reliance," he is allowed to retain his position. It is true that the Commander-in-Chief threatens to recommend to the Queen that the offender's "name shall be erased from the 'Army List,'" if he should be again guilty of the offence; but in the meantime his Lordship is satisfied that his opinion of Ensign Neville's conduct "shall be read to all the officers of the dépôt," who will thus learn the encouraging fact that, in spite of the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief as to his "ungentlemanly conduct," and notwithstanding that "no reliance can be placed" on him by the Commander-in-Chief, the Ensign is still thought fit to hold his commission. If this decision of the Commander-in-Chief is intended *pour encourager les autres*, it will doubtless have the effect of encouraging many to hope that they will not lose their rank in the Army, though they may lose at the same time their characters as gentlemen and the confidence of Lord Hardinge.

Perhaps this comparative impunity for the offences of the two officers in the 30th may have inspired the lively vagaries that have just taken place in the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, where a subaltern has been exposed to all sorts of practical jokes, including the saturation of his wardrobe with water, and the cutting off his horse's tail, by way of a climax to the exuberance of the humour of his comrades.

Second thoughts are said to be best, but it is as well in some cases to reserve the utterance of a first thought, if there is a probability that a second thought, at variance with the first, is about to arise in the mind of the utterer. This caution should especially be observed on the judicial bench, in passing sentence on a prisoner; for it is not very satisfactory to hear the judge in almost the same breath assign to the same offence two different amounts of punishment. An instance of this kind occurred the other day at the Middlesex Sessions, when Mr. Witham sentenced a woman, for assaulting her husband, to four months' hard labour. On hearing the penalty that was thought due to her offence, the prisoner exclaimed to the prosecutor, "I hope you may be paralysed before I come out!" upon which Mr. Witham said, "he should make the sentence six months instead of four"—a change that was evidently the result of a second thought as to the amount of punishment the assault deserved, for the mere expression of a wish, however malignant on the part of the culprit, could not by any law or by any reason have exposed her to two months' imprisonment. It is always better to pass a sentence all at once than to do so by instalments of two months at a time; for if the *crescendo* principle is introduced, and an additional term of imprisonment is launched from the bench after each violent exclamation that is hurled from the dock, the process of pronouncing the penalty of the law might become a mere undignified game of "last word" between the Judge and the prisoner. Mr. Witham generally performs his duty with good sense; and I have no doubt he will, on reflection, agree with the Silent Member as to the propriety of thinking twice before he speaks once from the bench, if his first and second thoughts are likely to be at variance.

The Sunday Beer Act does not gain in popularity by the difficulty of deciding the question, "What is a *bona fide* traveller?" I believe the difficulty of settling this question was pointed out when the measure was in progress; but those who were concerned in passing it into law are said to have declined the task of giving a definition, and determined to leave it—where it is the fashion to leave almost every legal difficulty in these days—with the discretion of the magistrate. This, if true, is a gross dereliction of duty; for it is an imperative obligation on the Legislature to provide against doubt whenever it is foreseen, and it is not fair to the public or the magistrates to leave the former to be bound by the interpretations which the latter may put on a confessedly ambiguous provision. The result of this omission on the part of Parliament has been to set up a different law in places a few miles apart; and, while a man who walks to Hampstead-heath is a traveller according to the law of Marylebone, a man who goes twice the distance by boat or railway is not a traveller by the law of Greenwich. The landlord of the Crown and Sceptre will be fined for doing that which the host of Jack Straw's Castle may do with impunity. No blame attaches to either of the worthy magistrates of these two districts, each of whom takes his own conscientious view of a confessedly doubtful point; but it was the duty of the authorities who framed the bill to take care the anomaly should not arise of there being a different law for different localities. The officials to whom this measure was entrusted must have been lamentably stupid if the difficulty was not foreseen; and culpably negligent if, having foreseen the difficulty, on its having been pointed out to them, they failed to provide against it. If they have not the sagacity to detect the ambiguities of their own language, they should submit the measures they have in preparation to those wiser heads than

their own by which the laws are administered. Considering the great powers now conferred on the police magistrates—who are entrusted to decide on matters of the utmost importance, without any appeal against their decisions being allowed—it is due to them that their very great responsibility should not be needlessly increased by the ambiguities which official incapacity or negligence will allow to creep into the language of Acts of Parliament.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Convention with Sardinia Bill was passed through Committee. Some routine business was disposed of, and their Lordships adjourned.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

## THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

In reply to a question from Mr. Bright, as to the present position of the Conference at Vienna, Lord PALMERSTON said, he could not say at what time he could give a full statement of the occurrences at the Conference, but he would state the position in which they now stood. It was already known to the House that the English and French Governments had determined—in which determination Austria agreed—that it was requisite that the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea should cease. The Russian Plenipotentiary had also assented in the abstract to the proposition. On Thursday last, however, when the Plenipotentiaries of England, France, Austria, and Turkey were present, it was proposed, as a mode of accomplishing this principle, that the amount of the Russian naval force in the Black Sea should be limited by treaty, or otherwise that the Black Sea should be considered neutral, in which no vessels of war of any nation should be allowed; confining its waters altogether to ships devoted to commerce. The Russian Plenipotentiary required forty-eight hours' time for consideration, at the end of which time, at another Conference, he absolutely refused either alternative; upon this the Conference adjourned *sine die*, and Lord John Russell and the French Ambassador were to leave Vienna on that day.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY asked if Russia had made any counter proposition? Lord PALMERSTON said that Russia had made no counter proposition.

## THE LOAN.

On the bringing up of the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. GOULBURN said, he would offer no objection to the plan of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, though he did object to that part of the plan which compelled its repayment at the rate of a million a year, as being a delusion. Believing it to be a delusion, he could only look upon the Loan as an addition to the redeemable debt of the country. He thought it would be far better to have raised the money by means of the New Three per Cents, which might be paid off, without the usual twelve months' notice, in 1874. At all events he hoped his right hon. friend would not adhere to the delusive portion of his plan of paying off the Loan at the rate of a million a year after the termination of the war.

Mr. T. BARING was surprised at the objection. Surely it was only right, when borrowing money, to make, if possible, provision for its repayment as soon as the circumstances of the country might admit of it. Our not having adopted that prudent course heretofore was no reason for not doing so in the present instance.

Mr. GLADSTONE repeated his objections to the portion of the plan which made repayment obligatory, as Parliament should not be pledged to a course which might prove very inconvenient. He did not believe the Loan could have been accomplished in Terminable Annuities without a great sacrifice of the public interests.

After some observations from Mr. Laing, Mr. John Macgregor, and Mr. James Macgregor,

Mr. T. HANKEY reminded Mr. Gladstone that this proceeding on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer found a precedent in his dealings with Treasury Bonds. He approved of the pledge respecting repayment.

Mr. WILKINSON entertained a different opinion of this portion of the plan.

Mr. CARDWELL warned the House not to consider this Loan as temporary in its character.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in his reply, said he would adhere to his plan of repayment. He was glad to find his plan approved of by such high authority as the hon. member for Huntingdon (Mr. T. Baring) and other hon. members of that House.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY thought the Loan was a fair one; but it was hardly fair to make the bargain in the morning, giving the Annuities in part payment, and taxing those very Annuities in the evening.

The report was ultimately agreed to, and leave was given to bring in bills founded upon the resolutions thus adopted.

## THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

The House then went into Committee on the Newspaper-Stamp Duties Bill.

Mr. COLLIER, on the second clause being proposed, moved, as an amendment, that, instead of a penny for postage, the charge for transmission be only one halfpenny, and that one halfpenny be charged for each transmission.

Mr. COWAN seconded the amendment.

Lord STANLEY said, the principle ought to be that the revenue should not gain by the stamp on newspapers, while, on the other hand, newspapers had no right to expect to be transmitted at a loss to the Post-office. Having laid this down as the principle, he thought it would not be difficult to arrive at the remunerative point. Believing this point to be the penny stamp, he should stand by the resolution as it now stood, until convinced that it was too high a rate of postage. The privilege of retransmission could not in equity be claimed; but as it had grown up under the law, he would for the present agree to its being retained.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, the Government was not prepared to risk any further loss of revenue by reducing the stamp to one halfpenny, and he should, therefore, adhere to the resolution as it stood.

Mr. M. MILNES spoke of the advantages of retransmission as of inestimable value to the London papers.

Mr. GLADSTONE objected to the principle of subsidising newspapers at the expense of the community at large, by transmitting them and retransmitting them at a loss to the Post-office. He was, therefore, opposed to the amendment, believing it would lead to a heavy loss to the revenue.

Mr. BARROW supported the amendment, believing that one halfpenny would be sufficient to pay the expense.

Mr. M. GIBSON opposed the amendment, which included the whole periodical press, but omitted any publication which was not periodical. After a few words from Mr. PHILIPPS,

The amendment was withdrawn, and the clause was agreed to.

On the fourth clause being proposed, relating to registration and sureties,

Mr. WHITESIDE proposed an amendment, with the view of making registration compulsory, instead of leaving it to the option of the parties, according as they might be desirous of having postal facilities or otherwise.

Some discussion took place, in which Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Drummond, and other hon. members took part; after which,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he would postpone the clause, with the view of limiting the registration and sureties to all newspapers, leaving other periodical publications free from such regulations.

The other clauses, with the exception of the registration and copyright clauses, were then agreed to; after which the House resumed, and the Chairman obtained leave to sit again on Monday next.

## THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

Mr. ROEBUCK said, the Sebastopol Committee had come to the conclusion unanimously that they could, in their present condition, pursue the inquiry with great advantage without supplying the place of Mr. J. Ball. They were desirous of avoiding divisions in that House of a party character; and he had, therefore, in obedience to the wishes of the Committee, communicated with the noble Lord at the head of the Government, who had expressed his readiness to acquiesce in the wishes of the Committee. He should not, therefore, propose any name to supply that of Mr. Ball.

Mr. BENTINCK could not at all agree in the decision come to by the Committee, being still firmly of opinion that there ought to be a naval officer on that Committee to aid in the inquiry into the conduct of the transport service. He should, therefore, move that Captain Gladstone be appointed a member of the Sebastopol Committee.

Mr. LIDDELL looked upon the decision of the Committee as an arranged thing between Mr. Roebuck and the Government. He should vote for the motion of Mr. Bentinck, if it went to a division.

After some observations from Mr. Drummond and Mr. Packer, Lord PALMERSTON said it was a matter of perfect indifference to the Government whether the motion was carried or not; but the Committee was appointed as all other Committees were invariably appointed, and it was only in deference to the opinion of the Committee that he should oppose the motion.

Mr. DISRAELI had always said that there ought to be a naval officer on the Committee, and he should therefore support the nomination of Captain Gladstone for the Committee.

Mr. ROEBUCK denied that the proposal not to supply the place of Mr. J. Ball had come from Lord Palmerston. He had nothing to do with it. It came from Sir John Pakington, and the Committee unanimously agreed to it. However, he had no wish to divide the House upon the question.

Lord PALMERSTON said, if the hon. and learned gentleman, who was Chairman of the Committee, would not persist in his objection, he had no wish to give the House the trouble of dividing.

The motion of Mr. Bentinck was then agreed to amidst loud cheering.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

## THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said, that it appeared there was no longer any hope of inducing Russia, to accept the terms laid down by the Western Powers, and, as was believed, supported by Austria. As he understood that it was upon the Third Point that the Conference had broken down, he wished to ask his noble friend (the Earl of Clarendon) whether the Russian Government had agreed to the first two points laid down by the Western Powers? He would also inquire whether it was still contemplated to include Prussia among the Protecting Powers, as had been originally proposed when the Four Points were laid down?

The Earl of CLARENDON said, his noble friend was right in assuming that the several points were discussed in the order in which they came, and that the first and second were virtually accepted by the Russian Plenipotentiaries. With respect to the two alternatives contained in the Third Point—viz., the limiting by treaty of the Russian naval force in the Black Sea, or the exclusion of all ships of war from those waters—they had been absolutely rejected by the Russian Government. In answer to the question of the noble Earl, as to the position of Prussia, he could only say that the position which Prussia had occupied since the 8th of August, and which she continued to occupy, had entirely excluded her from the Conference, and therefore from all the arrangements which had resulted from them.

The Earl of HARDWICKE was anxious to obtain some information with respect to the intentions of Austria. At this moment she was placed in a position in which she could play the game either of one side or the other, and be perfectly sure of support; and it was but right that the country, on entering upon the second act of this war, should seek all the information that her Majesty's Government might be in a position to give in reference to the part which this great German Power might be expected to play.

The Earl of CLARENDON had no reason to think that Austria would depart from the terms of the Treaty into which she had entered on the 6th of December. He would remind their Lordships that it was only in case of peace not being made upon the bases provided by the Treaty that Austria was to be called upon to concert measures for carrying its stipulation into effect. That time had not arrived; and till then it was not for him to say precisely what course Austria would take.

## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the committal of the Cambridge University Bill, and described in much detail the scope and working machinery of the measure.

Lord LYNCHURST commented upon various features presented in the bill, and entered into a minute examination respecting its effect on the internal arrangements of the University.

Some further conversation ensued, after which the motion was agreed to, and the bill passed through committee *pro forma*.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

## ACT OF UNIFORMITY.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved that the House should resolve itself into Committee to consider such clauses of the Act of Uniformity, passed in 1662, as imposed religious tests, by which the educational advantages offered in the Universities, grammar or free schools, were limited in their application, together with any of the regulations enforced in the national institutions of every kind throughout the country that were calculated to produce a similar result. His object was explained by the hon. member to be the removal of all obstructions to the enjoyment of educational privileges by any class of the community through the operation of religious tests or conditions.

The motion was seconded by Sir E. PERRY.

Lord PALMERSTON admitted the expediency of removing all obsolete regulations. He apprehended, however, that the resolution, if adopted in its present form, would interfere with the measure passed last year respecting Oxford University, and he could not consent to embarrass the operation of that Act without further experience of its working.

Mr. GLADSTONE opposed the motion on similar grounds, observing that it proposed to reopen a question which had occupied Parliament during nearly the entire half of last Session.

After a few words from Lord J. MANNERS, Mr. HEYWOOD consented to modify his resolution, and proposed to move only for a Committee to consider the clauses of the Act of 1662.

This modified proposition was discussed for some time, but ultimately negatived without a division on a point of form.

Mr. A. FELLATT moved for certain returns relating to the appointment of counsel and solicitors to the Charity Commission, the number of informations filed, &c.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the returns, which, he said, the honourable gentleman would never have made had he not allowed himself to be made a tool of by some discontented solicitor.

After a few words from Mr. Vernon, Mr. Pellatt withdrew his motion, but denied having been induced to make it by a solicitor.

Mr. BAILLIE rose to call the attention of the House to the defective Post-office communication in the western isles of Scotland, when an hon. Member moved that the House be counted, and forty members not being present, the House adjourned.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

## COLONIAL CONTINGENT.

Mr. ADDERLEY asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether authority had been sent out to the Governors of the North American colonies to raise a force of her Majesty's natural born subjects in those colonies for active service; and whether such force had been designated as a foreign legion?

Sir G. GREY said, such instructions had been sent to Canada to raise such a force; but as the hon. member had asked the question, he would say that of course it had not, and could not, be designated a Foreign Legion, but what name would be given to it he was unable at the present time to say.

## MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved the second reading of this bill.

Mr. WALPOLE then rose and moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. One of the arguments was, that these marriages could not be prevented. He admitted that, on an inquiry, which occupied seven or eight years, it was found that there were no less than 1560 such marriages; but he would ask what law might not and was not evaded? They could not even prevent polygamy. It had been said that these marriages were in the upper classes, but he denied that it was so; the returns had been analysed, and it was found that only 100 of the 1560 had taken place in the upper classes (cheers); in the middle classes, 1400 (hear, hear); and amongst the poorer classes, only 60 (Hear, hear). It was said that this was a poor man's bill. He denied that it was so; it was the very reverse; it was supported by those who ought to be legislating in favour of morality, but by this bill they were doing the reverse. If there were any members of the Government present besides the Attorney-General—whose opinion he knew was opposed to his—if the chief of the Government was present, he would appeal to him to put an end to an agitation on this subject, which had already been settled in the other House, unless the Government was certain that they could carry it into law. Why encourage an agitation which had the effect of lowering the standard of morality when they ought to be employed in raising it? They were encouraging these marriages by persons who believed that the law would pass, and they would be protected. After some further remarks, the right honourable gentleman concluded by moving that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, the arguments and reasoning of the right honourable gentleman had wholly failed to convince him that the opinions he had expressed on a former occasion were erroneous. The honourable and learned gentleman then proceeded to contend that such marriages had not been considered by the Hebrew people prohibited by divine law, and that though they were voidable they were not void in the earlier ages of the Christian Church. Divided as Christians were upon the construction of the Levitical law, they had no right dogmatically to force their own interpretation of the Scripture and their opinions on the Levitical law on others. The question was one of religious opinions, and every man ought to be allowed to entertain his own opinions. The hon. and learned Attorney-General then proceeded to show that these marriages were permitted in the Roman Catholic Church, all over the Continent, in Germany, in Denmark, Sweden, and other countries. He would go further—across the Atlantic, all over the United States of America—was it not permitted? (Hear, hear). To those who believed such marriages to be irreligious, the bill was no doubt unnecessary, but to those who thought otherwise the present law was a positive tyranny (cheers) which ought at once to be put an end to as intolerable (cheers). The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Walpole) had said, that if the noble Lord at the head of the Government was present he would ask him to stop the agitation on this subject. Stop this agitation! why you might as well put your foot in the sea, and ask the tide not to flow (cheers). It was impossible to stop the agitation on a question which involved the interests and happiness of the community, the people were too deeply interested, and their happiness too deeply involved to stop agitation until they were successful; for his part, he gave his most cordial support to the second reading of the bill.

Mr. WIGRAM and Mr. NAFLER opposed the motion. Mr. COLLIER and Mr. M. MILNES supported it.

Mr. K. SEYMOUR said, the Attorney-General had appeared that day in a new character: he had appeared as the advocate of those who broke the law of the land and the Church, and who had committed perjury to enable them to do so.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS looked upon the question upon religious grounds, and he was of opinion there ought to be no restriction, and that the Act of Parliament which prohibited these marriages should be removed from the Statute-book. He therefore supported the bill.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE moved the adjournment of the debate until the 9th of May, which was agreed to.



## TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &amp;c.

THE two quarterly returns from the Row and from Albemarle-street contain ample evidence that little is doing in permanent literature. When we turn to the advertisements of new books in the recent number of the *Edinburgh Review*, we find very little indeed; when we turn to the advertisements in the recent number of the *Quarterly* we find very little more. Yet these are the two fountain-heads from which literary intelligence still continues to rise. If we turn to the columns of the *Athenæum*, or to our own columns, we find the same slender thread of promise. Yet this (but for Sebastopol) would have been the great "term time" of publishers. Our circulating libraries (but for Sebastopol) would have been crowded with liveried footmen anxious to secure the earliest copies of new works by the most eminent hands: now, the herd of readers are compelled to be content with delayed intelligence, an additional Income-tax, and—no new books.

Yet still, with rapid strides (we are happy to record), the new Reading-room of the British Museum, is fast filling the quadrangle of Sir Robert Smirke's ill-planned edifice. Each day reveals some additional growth towards the completion of a crying necessity. Readers still flock to the Museum as if the reproduction of books was in urgent demand in the Row and Albemarle-street. The room is thronged by readers, intent—if we may judge by their faces—on works of enduring importance; each on

A work to outlast Seth's pillars, brick and stone—  
And, Holy Writ excepted, made to yield to none.

And each, as he closes his researches for the day, concludes with an expressed longing for the new Reading-room which Mr. Panizzi is about to give us. But is Mr. Panizzi the parent of the new building? Hear a Correspondent:—

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Liverpool, April 20, 1855.

Sir,—In your impression of the 14th inst., speaking of the additions now making to the British Museum, you say—"Several plans were offered, and at length that at present in progress (the happy suggestion of Mr. Panizzi) was adopted."

By referring to the *Builder*, vol. 8, p. 295, it will be seen that this arrangement was suggested by Professor Hosking; and it is also stated that this idea had occurred to him as soon as the progress of the works had developed the plan.

Some correspondence followed in that journal; and at p. 320 it is intimated that the trustees declined considering the proposition.

I trust you will take an early opportunity to give credit for the suggestion to the right person, and oblige your obedient servant,  
AN ARCHITECT.

Having no other object than truth, we readily give insertion to this letter. But is our Liverpool architect correct in his belief that the merit of the suggestion is due to Professor Hosking rather than to Mr. Panizzi? Are not the plans of the Professor and the Librarian essentially different? What is the case? Sir Robert Smirke devoted (with very little skill as an architect) a huge quadrangle in the British Museum to London cats by night and London sparrows by day. The waste of space was obvious to every eye. It caught, of course, the cleve. eye of Professor Hosking; and a plan, we are told, was submitted by that gentleman to the trustees of the British Museum for filling up the middle of the quadrangle by a modified copy in stone of the Pantheon in Rome. The Professor thought only of architecture and sculpture, and his plan (though perhaps not, for these reasons) was rejected by the trustees. Mr. Hosking's structure was designed to satisfy in stone and brick a totally different object from that designed by Mr. Panizzi in iron and glass. Mr. Hosking contemplated a central hall of communication (grand, no doubt, in its proportions, and ornamental) with the four sides of Smirke's structure; while Mr. Panizzi designed, and is now on the eve of completing, a library filled with a busy and unobtrusive hum of men intent on catering for the daily requirements of the public. Sir Robert Smirke was neglectful; Professor Hosking was suggestive and architectural; Mr. Panizzi is useful and ornamental. We have our own few complaints against Mr. Panizzi, but we are unwilling not to do full honour to a man who deserves so well as Mr. Panizzi does of the British public.

Some of our contemporaries are pressing on public attention the necessity of placing on each exhibited picture the name of its artist and the subject it seeks to embody. "It would certainly," we are told, "be a vast relief to be spared the necessity of continually looking at the catalogue." The suggestion is not likely to be adopted. Conceive a society surrendering nearly one half of its revenue. Who would purchase a black and white catalogue when all that is supposed to be required is told *gratis* in letters of gold upon the frame? Fancy a frame with a long extract from Tennyson, or Turner's "Fallacies of Hope," attached to it, dangling half way down a "Momentary Thought" of Frank Stone, or a "Sympathetic Stag" by Sir Edwin Landseer.

Who is satisfied with his condition in life? Even actors—strange to say—are not satisfied; and a Club especially devoted to do honour to them is said to be wanting in courtesy to the stage. When honour and kindness are sincerely meant, honour and kindness should be as sincerely accepted. When (some thirty years since) the Garrick Club was instituted, for the sole purpose of doing honour to able and honourable men, and to the stage in general, actors of known standing were brought into a Club, then, as now, called the Garrick Club. This Club, from its kitchen to its garret, does nothing but celebrate celebrated, and even bad, actors. It is a sort of Walhalla of English players, eminent and indifferent. Its very crockery and linen bear the impress of homage to the stage. But this is not enough. This homage is insufficient, and actors, it is now thought (by a few), are not treated with sufficient consideration by the Club. They should share its management; they should have a full voice in the committee of election. Nor is the claim thus urged without its due weight; but is it not unduly pressed forward; and, above all, is it likely to serve the object which we sincerely believe its promoters have in view? We have received some letters on this subject, and may hereafter revert to the suggestions they throw out.

**PHOTOGRAPHY IN GUILDHALL.**—On Thursday week the City authorities kindly granted permission to a gentleman from the Stereoscope Company, 313, Oxford-street, to take views of the grand ceremonial in Guildhall. Two large cameras were busily at work during the day from a stage erected in the gallery opposite the grand entrance, by which means several most striking views were taken of the very interesting proceedings.

**INAUGURATION OF THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.**—The Imperial Commission have invited the President and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, the jurors, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Chairman and Vice-President of the East India Company, the President of the Royal Society, the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts, and the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Local Committees of the Paris Exhibition, to be present at the inauguration of the 1st of May.

**THE HOTEL MUNSCHE.**—In the letter from our Correspondent at Vienna, which appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 14th inst., the name of the Hotel Munsch—one of the best in Vienna, if not in Europe—was erroneously printed the Hotel Munich. We are anxious to rectify this error—not only that we may be correct, but that we may do justice to the proprietor of an establishment who does so much to make Englishmen comfortable when they visit Vienna; and who thinks no trouble too great that can make their stay agreeable, in that most agreeable of capitals. It was at this hotel that Lord John Russell, and his family, resided for eight weeks, during the famous Conferences which have given Vienna a new notoriety in the annals of diplomacy. His Lordship and suite occupied upwards of thirty rooms in the establishment of M. Munsch; and we have reason to believe expressed himself highly satisfied, in every respect, with the accommodation and the attention which he received.

M. Niewerkerke, the Director-General of the Imperial Museums, has intimated that, from the 1st May, and during the whole period of the Universal Exhibition, artists will be allowed to make copies in the Louvre every day except Sundays and Mondays, from eight in the morning to one; and that the Galleries will be open to the public every day except Mondays from two to five.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. F., Norwood.—Too simple.  
R. S. FENNING.—You should procure some elementary book on Chess, and learn the openings.  
C. L. C. C.—Apply for the rules of the Brighton Chess-club to J. Turner, Esq., Regency-square, Brighton; or for those of the Reading Club to Mr. W. Hodges, jun., hon. secretary, Reading.

J. J. CWM, Avon.—It is not possible to checkmate with a King and Kt against a King alone. MATCH BETWEEN M. DE RIVIERE AND MR. SCHULTEN, AT PARIS.—A match of seven games has been arranged between these eminent amateurs, to be played immediately, at the Cercle des Echecs. We shall probably give the opening parties in our next week's Number.

W. C. C., DEREVOY, F. R. of Norwich, and others.—In Enigmas No. 918, if Black for his second move, play P to Q Kt 8th and claims a Kt, we suspect he may retard the threatened mate.

W. C. C.—Your Problem No. IV. is somewhat too obvious, and No. V. is defective, for Black can win by taking the Pawn with his King at move three.

JULIA.—I. We shall fetch up our arrears in the Solutions very shortly. 2. You have failed in No. 583. The key move is—1. Kt to K 6th.

R. I., Edinburgh.—If you will be good enough to forward the Solution the Problem shall be examined; and, if it has ever been published, we shall doubtless be able to tell you who was the author, or where it appeared.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 583, by Templar, Caxton, B. P. L., Bookworm, Annette, are correct.

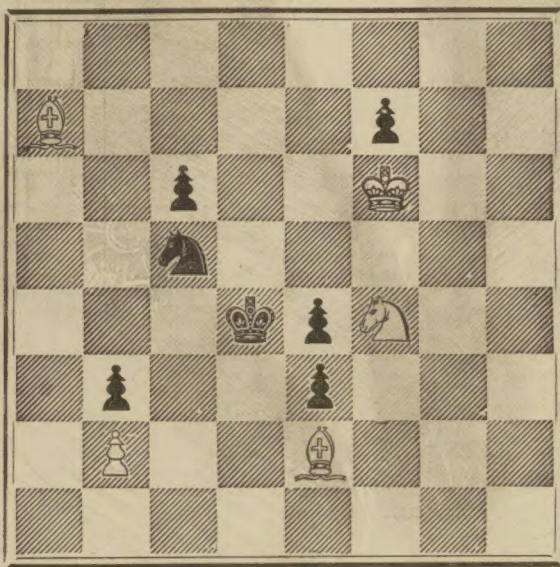
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 583, by Derevoy, F. R. of Norwich, Peter the Little, T. W. P., Oxon, A. Z., Omicron, D. D., Philz, W. C. C., J. A. M., Fakenham, J., Stonehouse, J. L. N., A. Marine, M.P., Dorcas, P. T., Derby; Wyke, Miles, J. Yddan, Baylis, W. B. S., Birmingham; A. G., Legars, Medicus, Publicola, S. P., Q. R., C. T. W., Dumbiedikes, Delta, are correct. All others are wrong.

\* \* We are compelled by stress of space this week to postpone the answers to a whole pile of Chess communications.

## PROBLEM No. 584.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

## CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

In our No. for April 14 we expressed a hope of being able to present some additional specimens of the late Mr. G. Perigal's skill. The following will afford a good notion of his ability in giving odds, on which he prided himself very highly.

Mr. G. PERIGAL gives the Pawn and two moves to a MEMBER of the LONDON CHESS-CLUB.

(Remove Black's K B Pawn from the board.)

WHITE (Mr. —)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. —)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	16. K takes Kt	P to K R 4th
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	17. K to R 2nd	P takes B
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q B to K Kt 5th	18. P takes P	K to B 2nd (b)
4. P to K 5th	P to K 3rd	19. P to K B 5th	K R checks
5. K B to Q Kt 5th	K Kt to K 2nd	20. K to Kt 2nd	P takes P
6. Castles	P to K R 3rd	21. K R takes P (ch)	K to his 3rd
7. Q B to K Kt 5th	K Kt to K B 4th	22. Q to K B 3rd (c)	K R to his 5th
8. Q B to K 3rd	K B to K 2nd	23. Kt to Q B 5th (ch)	B takes Kt
9. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Castles	24. K R to Kt 5th	Q takes Q B P (ch)
10. Q Kt to his 3rd	Q to K sq	25. B to K B 2nd	Q R to K B sq
11. K B to K 2nd	Q takes Kt	26. K R to K B 5th	Kt takes Q P
12. P to K R 3rd	K Kt to K R 5th	27. Q to K Kt 3rd	Q R to K R sq
13. K B takes B	Q Kt to Kt 3rd	28. K R to K R 5th	Q to K 5th (ch)
14. K B to K Kt 4th	K Kt takes Kt P	29. K to B sq	R checks
15. P to K B 4th			And wins.

(a) Black has dexterously managed to turn the attack against his foe, and contrives to maintain it so successfully, that resistance soon becomes hopeless.

(b) Daring, but very clever and ingenious.

(c) P to Q B 4th would perhaps have been stronger, though the move of Q to K B 3rd was well conceived, and led to some interesting combinations.

Mr. G. PERIGAL gives his Queen's Rook to an AMATEUR.

(Remove Black's Queen's Rook from the Board.)—(King's Gambit declined.)

BLACK (Mr. G. P.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. G. P.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	15. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd
2. P to K B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	16. P to K R 3rd	Q to Q 2nd (b)
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	17. P to K B 5th	P to K Kt 3rd
4. P to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	18. P to Kt 4th	B takes P
5. P to Q 4th	P takes P	19. P takes B	Kt takes Kt P
6. P takes P	K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	20. Kt to Q 5th	Kt to K B 7th (ch) (c)
7. K to B 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd	21. K to Kt 2nd	Kt takes B
8. K B to Q 3rd	Castles	22. Kt to K B 6th (ch)	K to Kt 2nd
9. K R to K B 3rd	Q B to K Kt 5th	23. Q to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 5th (ch)
10. K to Kt sq	Kt takes Q P	24. K to B 3rd	Kt to K 7th
11. Q to her R 4th (a)	Q B takes K Kt	25. Kt to K 8th (dble ch)	K to R 3rd
12. Q takes K B	Q Kt to K 7th (ch)	26. R to K R sq (ch)	K to Kt 4th
13. K to R sq	Kt takes Q B	27. Q mates.	
14. R takes Kt	B to K R 4th		

(a) This was a very good counter-move; and, we suspect, quite unforeseen by White when he captured the Pawn.

(b) White appreciates the difficulty of extricating his poor Bishop, and plays to gain as much compensation for the loss as the position will afford.

(c) The rest is full of spirit; and, on Mr. Perigal's side, extremely well played.

## CHESS MATCH BETWEEN MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL.

A Chess contest of more than ordinary interest has just commenced between the well-known Clubs of Liverpool and Manchester. The match in question is not to be conducted by correspondence, but by personal competition over the Chess-board. For this purpose it has been arranged that the best men of Manchester shall first pay a visit to Liverpool, and play a rubber of three games each against the picked players of that Club. Next month the Liverpool magnates are to return the compliment by visiting Manchester, and playing there three more games each, against the same antagonists. The Club that scores the majority of games will then be presented by their friendly rivals with an appropriate memento of the conflict in the shape of a set of Chess-men. From the acknowledged prowess of the players selected to take part in this tourney, some capital games may be anticipated, and of these we trust to have in our power to chronicle several for the entertainment of our readers in future numbers.

Since writing the above, we have been favoured with particulars of the first meeting, which took place at the Union Hotel, Clayton-square, on Wednesday (last week). The result of the play on this occasion giving—

Manchester	...	...	...	12
Liverpool	...	...	...	6

The return visit will come off at the end of May, and the total score will then decide the match.

**CHESS MEETING AT READING.**—The annual gathering of Chess players, under the auspices of the Reading and Berkshire Chess-club, was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution on Tuesday, the 10th inst., and was attended by several of the local clergy, many of the most influential residents of the town, and a fair sprinkling of amateurs from London, Oxford, &c. Shortly after the assembling of the members and their guests Chess-playing commenced, and was carried on uninterruptedly till six o'clock. At that hour the majority of the party adjourned to dinner at the George Hotel; where, the chair being filled by Mr. Keating, M.P., and the vice-chair by Admiral Allen, the proceedings terminated, after an agreeable fusillade of speech and anecdotes, about twelve at night.

**A NIGHT SCENE BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.**—10 P.M. The night is dark and tempestuous; the wind continues to blow strongly from the south-west, and the rain, though less continuous, passes by in heavy fitful showers.

No stars are visible. The fire from the batteries continues. Flashes of light from the guns, and the reflected glare in the sky, burst through the darkness at frequent intervals, and appear among the mist and clouds with the sudden effect and vividness of lightning; while the roar of the guns and the roll of the echoes among the mountains not inaptly complete the illusion of an Alpine storm, by their close resemblance to the crash and stunning sound of thunder. The horizontal flight through the air of some of the larger shot and shell, with their peculiar shrill rushing noise, contrasts strongly with the deep booming of the guns, and adds to the confusion of sounds which strike the ear. The report from each piece at the instant of explosion is so modified by the weight of metal, amount of charge, position, and distance, that no two sounds appear alike either in tone or intensity. Sometimes the explosion and discharge are made with such force that even at a considerable distance the concussion of the air strikes the spectator forcibly, and he experiences the sensation of having received a blow on the chest. The noise would be much increased if the wind blew from an opposite direction, even on these open heights: what must be the roar in the streets and buildings of the town below! The shells rise thickly and brightly from the English batteries, and in less number from the French works on the right, but become dimmer as they travel through the misty atmosphere towards the Russian side. The Russians are replying comparatively feebly.—*Letter from the Camp, April 9.*

**THE ATTITUDE OF PRUSSIA.**—I believe I do not misstate the opinions of those who represent Prussia here in saying that they do not believe that Russia will ever consent to the proposition of the limitation of her power in the Black Sea, and I am pretty certain that they highly approve that refusal. They think that Russia is a match for all Europe. As to Prussia, they affect to believe that, whether the issue be peace or war, she will still be able to maintain herself in the same "high position" she has hitherto maintained, and that if the war continues she will succeed in preserving her neutrality in spite of all Europe. "She is," says a Prussian diplomatist, "like a noble animal of the forest, sitting motionless on its hinder part, with head erect, showing her teeth, and with watchful eye, attacking no one, but ready to spring on the first, whoever he may be, that menaces or irritates her." Such is the portrait drawn of Prussia by those who must be in the secret of her councils.—*Letter from Vienna.*

## COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN.

CHARLES FERDINAND COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN of Riedberg, Strassberg and Ehrenfels, is Imperial Royal Chamberlain and Privy Councillor, Minister for Foreign Affairs and of the Imperial Household, President of the Conference of Ministers, Knight of the Imperial order of the Iron Crown, 1st class; Grand Cross of the Imperial order of Leopold; Grand Cross also of the following, viz.:—Of the Baden orders of Fidelity and of the Zuringian Lion; of the Grand Duchy of Hessen order of Lewis; of the Russian orders of the White Eagle, and of the Alexander of Newski order in brilliants; of the Netherlands order of the Lion; of the Parmese order of Lewis, and Senator Grand Cross of the Parmese order of Constantine St. George; Grand Cross of the order of Malta; of the Electorate of Hessen order of the Golden Lion; of the Saxon Ernestine House-order; of the Greek order of the Saviour; of the Wurtemberg order of the Crown; of the Belgian order of Leopold; of the Brazilian order of the Rose; of the Brunswick order of Henry the Lion; of the Danish order of the Elephant; of the Pontifical order of Pius; of the French order of the Legion of Honour; of the Turkish order of Medjidie, 1st class; Knight of the Prussian orders of the Red Eagle, 1st class, and of the Black Eagle; of the Sicilian order of St. Januario; and of the Bavarian order of Hubertus.

This eminent statesman was born on the 17th of May, 1797, and is the son of the late Count John Rudolph Buol-Schauenstein (I. R. Actual Privy Councillor and Minister of State, formerly Presidial Ambassador at the Diet of the Germanic Confederation) and of the Countess Alexandrina, born Countess Lerchenfeld-Prenberg. In 1833, he married Caroline Francisca Dorothea, born Princess of Isenburg-Birstein, Lady of the Palace, Lady of the order of the Star-cross, and of the order of Theresa, by whom he has issue two daughters, namely—the Ladies Josephine and Alexandrina.

The present Count Buol-Schauenstein is the descendant of an ancient Grison family, whose ancestor, Ulrich Buol, was a captain in the service of Albert of Austria, at Speyer, in 1298. John Anthony Buol received the Predicate of Strassberg in 1649, for his services in Grison; his son, Paul, acquired the noble castle of Riedberg, and as the possessor of both these estates (Strassberg and Riedberg), was raised to the Barony of the Empire in 1690, and in 1693 he espoused the Roman Catholic faith. Charles Rudolph Baron Buol, I. R. Chamberlain, Privy Councillor and Imperial Ambassador at the Court of the Electorate of the Palatinate (the great-grandfather of the present head of the family) was adopted by his uncle the Imperial Field-Marshal Francis Thomas, Count Schauenstein, as his son, in lieu of direct issue; inherited the dignity of the Countship of the Empire, granted to the latter, and thus united the title, estates, names, and armorial bearings of Schauenstein and Ehrenfels, in 1742. After the extinction of this younger branch of the Buol family, the dignity of a Countship of the Empire was transferred to the elder branch (founded by Rudolph Anthony, the grandson of the above-mentioned Baron Paul Buol, who acquired the rights of country in the Tyrol, in 1731). The first family mansion of the old Barons of Schauenstein was Ehrenfels, in Grison, which name they originally bore. As far back as the twelfth century two members of this family were Bishops of Chur. In the year 1257 Burkhard of Ehrenfels received the Castle of Schauenstein as a donation; and since that time the male members of the family of Buol have borne either the names of Ehrenfels or of Schauenstein, or both together.

The above data prove that the Counts of Buol-Schauenstein (beginning with the great-grandfather of the present Count) have been employed by the Imperial House of Austria in a diplomatic capacity for upwards of a century.

Count Charles Buol-Schauenstein, his Imperial Royal Apostolical Majesty's present Minister for Foreign Affairs, entered the diplomatic service in his nineteenth year, first as Attaché of the Imperial Embassies at Florence, Hanover, and Cassel; afterwards at Frankfurt, where his deceased father was then I. R. Presidial Ambassador. In 1819 he was appointed Secretary of Legation at the Hague; in 1822 he was sent as Secretary of Embassy to Paris; in 1824 he was removed, in like capacity, to London, where he at that time remained four years. In 1828 he was appointed I. R. Ambassador at Karlsruhe; in 1831 he was simultaneously charged with the same post at Darmstadt; and in 1838 he was promoted, with the same rank, to the Royal Court of Stuttgart. On the 13th July, 1844, he was invested with the dignity of an Imperial Privy Councillor; and shortly afterwards appointed Ambassador to the Court of Turin (at the same time also to the Court of Parma), where he remained until the eventful year 1848. The characteristic resoluteness and firmness of Count Buol as a diplomatist of the modern school here displayed itself in an act of promptitude and independence which is well worthy of record. When Charles-Albert, contrary not only to all the recognised usages of civilised diplomacy and the principles of international law, but in violation also of the most positive assurances of amity, ordered his troops across the Austrian frontiers, to invade Lombardy, even without a previous declaration of war, Count Buol, being without instructions from his Court, hesitated not to act upon his own responsibility on the instant: he forthwith demanded his passports and quitted Turin;—an act which doubtless greatly redounds to his honour, and was highly approved of by the Imperial Government. Shortly after this event Count Buol was appointed Imperial Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg. In the meantime, however, honoured by the special confidence of his Sovereign, he was sent as second Plenipotentiary of Austria to the German Conferences at Dresden (the then Prime Minister, Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, being the first Plenipotentiary). In 1851 Count Buol was definitively removed from the Court of St. Petersburg to that of St. James, where he remained as Imperial Ambassador until after the death of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, when, on the 11th of April, 1852, his I. R. Apostolical Majesty appointed him as his Minister for Foreign Affairs, and of the Imperial Household, as also to the Presidency of the Conference of Ministers.

Since the accession of Count Buol to his present high office, he has concluded the following treaties with other Powers, viz.:—Postal treaties with the Pontifical States (30th March, 1852); with Spain (30th April, 1853); with Switzerland (1st August, 1853); with Sardinia (28th September, 1853); and with Russia (5th May, 1854); treaties relating to telegraphs with Switzerland (26th April, 1852); with the German States (additional treaty of the 23rd September, 1853); with Sardinia (25th September, 1853); treaties relating to the respective laws of settlement with Bavaria and Saxony (1853); treaties relating to jurisdiction with Saxony (6th Jan., 1854) and with the Germanic Confederation (26th January, 1854); treaty of customs and commerce with Prussia and the German Customs' Union (Zollverein) of 19th March, 1853; treaty of commerce and navigation with Belgium (2nd May, 1854); convention with the Sublime Porte for the military occupation of the Danubian Principalities by Austrian troops (Constantinople, 14 June, 1854); the famous protocol signed at Vienna on Palm Sunday, 1854, by which Austria, conjointly with the Western Powers and Prussia, acknowledged the justice of the war on the part of France, England, and Turkey, against Russia, and declared that in principle perfect unanimity of purpose prevailed among the Four Powers; exchange of notes with England and France, for the precision of the four points of guarantee in the Oriental question, on the 8th August, 1854; offensive and defensive treaty with Prussia of the



20th April, 1854; accession thereto of the Germanic Confederation of the 24th July, 1854; additional article to the above treaty with Prussia (26th November, 1854); accession thereto of the Germanic Confederation of the 9th December, 1854; treaty of alliance with France and Great Britain of the 2nd December, 1854; protocols of the 28th December, 1854, and of the 7th January, 1855.

By the sudden death of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg in April, 1852, Austria was unhappily deprived of the man who within a few years had saved the empire from the greatest danger in which it had ever been, and to whom the country was indebted for its rapid elevation to new glory. This fearful blow, however, seemed to paralyse the State anew, and the youthful Monarch saw himself unexpectedly deprived of the bold and safe support of that extraordinary man who had gallantly and successfully carried the vessel of State through the greatest difficulties, and in whom his Majesty naturally reposed the most unbounded confidence. The gloomy days of Dresden and of Olmütz had but just been happily overcome, when this new calamity occurred, which threatened to render the future destinies of the empire once more uncertain. At this trying moment the entire greatness and significance of the intellectual life of the deceased Minister was most sensibly felt. His premature death had caused a vacuum in the whole organism of the State, and the loss sustained appeared to be truly irreparable. But Prince Felix Schwarzenberg's incomparable foresight had extended even beyond the grave; for he had himself directed the attention of his Sovereign and of the political world to the statesman whom he believed worthy of being called to the councils of the Emperor, as the inheritor of his ideas. This statesman was none other than Count Buol, and the greatest but also the most deserved compliment that can be paid to him is, that he has hitherto proved himself the truly able successor of the great genius who presided over the Ministry for Foreign Affairs immediately before him. It may, therefore, with perfect truth be said that, under the administration of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg and Count Buol, the policy of Austria has assumed a new and grand character, alike free from traditional prejudices and petty considerations. The above enumeration of the various and important treaties which Count Buol has entered into with foreign States since he has been in his present high office proves to demonstration his undeviating indefatigability in the prosecution of a truly liberal policy. Whilst, as a salutary consequence of the adoption and realisation of the great principle of the unity of the empire, the internal Customs barriers were removed by Baron Bruck, the present enlightened Minister of Finance (at that time Minister of Commerce), Prince Schwarzenberg and Count Buol abolished the previously existing prohibitive system in respect of the foreign commerce of the country. This new and improved commercial policy has already been fruitful of great and important results; it brought about, within a comparatively short period, an assimilation with the German "Zollverein." Austria, indeed, proposed the abolition, within a given time, of all Customs barriers between the Zollverein and Austria; but Prussia—illiberal, narrow-minded Prussia—declined to enter into the proposed arrangement. As regards the policy of Austria in the Oriental question, an immense deal might be said in commendation of the extraordinary and masterly abilities, the unflinching consistency and never-swinging loyalty which Count Buol has displayed throughout these trying complications. It must not, however, be forgotten that, in this respect, the present Minister for Foreign Affairs in Austria simply reflects the truly enlightened and magnanimous policy of his Sovereign, the youthful and energetic Emperor Francis Joseph I. Without, therefore, entering more fully into this all-absorbing question of the day, suffice it to say that, notwithstanding the incessant intrigues of a certain influential but retrograding party in the

State, his Excellency Count Buol has hitherto perfectly succeeded in overcoming all obstacles thrown in his way, and is up to this hour in the full enjoyment of the most unbounded confidence of his youthful and highly-gifted Sovereign, whose steadfast support and unqualified appreciation never fail to cheer him on in the consistent prosecution, but otherwise thorny and difficult path, of his patriotic exertions in behalf of the true interests and welfare of his country and his nation. The fundamental principles which form, as it were, the groundwork of this herculean task, and have hitherto been faithfully carried out, may be briefly summed up as follows:—In matters material, the foreign policy of Austria is based upon comparatively liberal commercial and customs laws, which the more recently-concluded postal, telegraph, navigation, and other treaties with foreign countries exemplify. In matters purely political, Count Buol advocates a close alliance with the Western Powers, but especially with France—to wit, the protocol signed on Palm Sunday, 1854; the exchange of notes (without Prussia) on the 8th of August, 1854; the treaty of the 2nd December, 1854; the vast military preparations for a war against Russia, &c; furthermore, the enormous and indefatigable exertions which have been made, and are still making, to secure the support of Prussia and the Germanic Confederation for the impending conflict; and, lastly, the persevering advance towards the main object in view, viz., the annihilation of Russia's supremacy in the East. These are the main and unmistakable features of the foreign policy of Austria's present Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In conclusion, a few words on Count Buol's external appearance and

private character. He is rather above the middle stature, and has an exceedingly dignified bearing. The noble and frank expression of his manly countenance, and the invariable urbanity of his demeanour, bespeak at once the man of intellect. He is a kind husband, and a fond father; a sincere and faithful friend. The placidity, or, better still, the apparent imperturbability, of his general deportment to strangers or inferiors, coupled as it usually is with a very prominent degree of reserve, seldom fails to produce upon them the impression that Count Buol is, withal, a cold and proud statesman. This unfavourable impression, however, gradually wears away upon longer and better acquaintance, when the noble qualities of his superior mind and generous heart shine forth in all their native dignity.

#### THE FOREIGN-OFFICE AT VIENNA.

WITH respect to the origin of this highly-interesting public building at Vienna, the only reliable data that we have been enabled to obtain are indicated in the following inscription, which we found over the great portico, or principal entrance:—

Pretorium  
Maj. Sigilli et Rerum cum Extens. Gerend.  
Maria Theresia Aug. Imbente.  
Cura W. Principis A. Kaunitz. Rittberg.  
Restauratum.  
1800.

In Feb. 1742 the Imperial Chancery of State was separated from the Austrian Court Chancery, or Hofkanzlei (at present called the Home-office, or Ministry of the Interior), and was placed under the Presidency of the then Court and State Chancellor, Count Uhlefeld; with whom, therefore, the illustrious list of the Ministers of the Imperial House and of Foreign Affairs commences. He was succeeded in this high office by the following statesmen:—Prince Kaunitz, Prince Colloredo and Count Cobenzl (who held this post conjointly), Baron Thugut, Count Stadion, Prince Metternich, Count Ficquelmont, Baron Wessenberg, Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, Count Buol Schauenstein. Of the apartment in this Office, wherein the Conference has recently been held, we gave an Engraving in our Journal of last week.

We have already briefly referred to the great European Congress which was assembled within the walls of this building in 1814 and 1815. The next important meeting of diplomatists, which took place here in 1819 and 1820, as well as that which followed in 1834, are known under the appellation of the "German Conferences." The former of these deliberated upon the so-called "Carlsbad Resolutions," which were mainly directed against the public press, and led to the introduction of the much-hated censorship upon all literary productions throughout Germany. It was also at these Conferences of 1819 and 1820 that the German Federal Constitution was completed by the signing of the "Vienna final act" thereof. The German Conferences in 1834, it will be remembered, took place shortly after the serious riots that had occurred at Frankfurt, where the Constable Guard-house had been attacked, and an assault upon the Federal Palace been effected. The object of these Conferences, therefore, was to deliberate upon new and more stringent laws in respect of the then existing rights of association, and of the ancient privileges of the Universities, which had become exceedingly inconvenient to almost all the Governments in Germany. These conferences also aimed at the introduction of a limitation to the publicity of the debates of the German States, and at the establishment of a Court of Arbitration for all matters of dispute between the several Governments of the Germanic Confederation and their States (representative parliaments). The results of their deliberations were subsequently confirmed by resolutions agreed to at the Federal Diet.

These general historical reminiscences which attach to the Austrian Foreign-office will, together with the above sketch of this interesting public building in Austria, doubtless be deemed particularly acceptable to the readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS at the present moment.

COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN, THE AUSTRIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.



THE FOREIGN-OFFICE, VIENNA.—THE CONFERENCE OF 1855 HELD HERE.





SCIENTIFIC CONVERSAZIONE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.

**PRESENTATION OF THE BOYS OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL TO THE LORD MAYOR.**

SINCE the foundation of this Institution it has been the annual custom to present the Bluecoat Boys to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on Easter Tuesday. Considerable anxiety was manifested to witness the sight this year, in consequence of its having become generally known that the Duke of Cambridge, the newly-elected President of the Institution, would attend the presentation. A very large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled accordingly in the Egyptian-hall on that day. Precisely at half-past one o'clock his Royal Highness arrived—the band of the City of London Militia, immediately on his alighting from his carriage, playing the National Anthem.

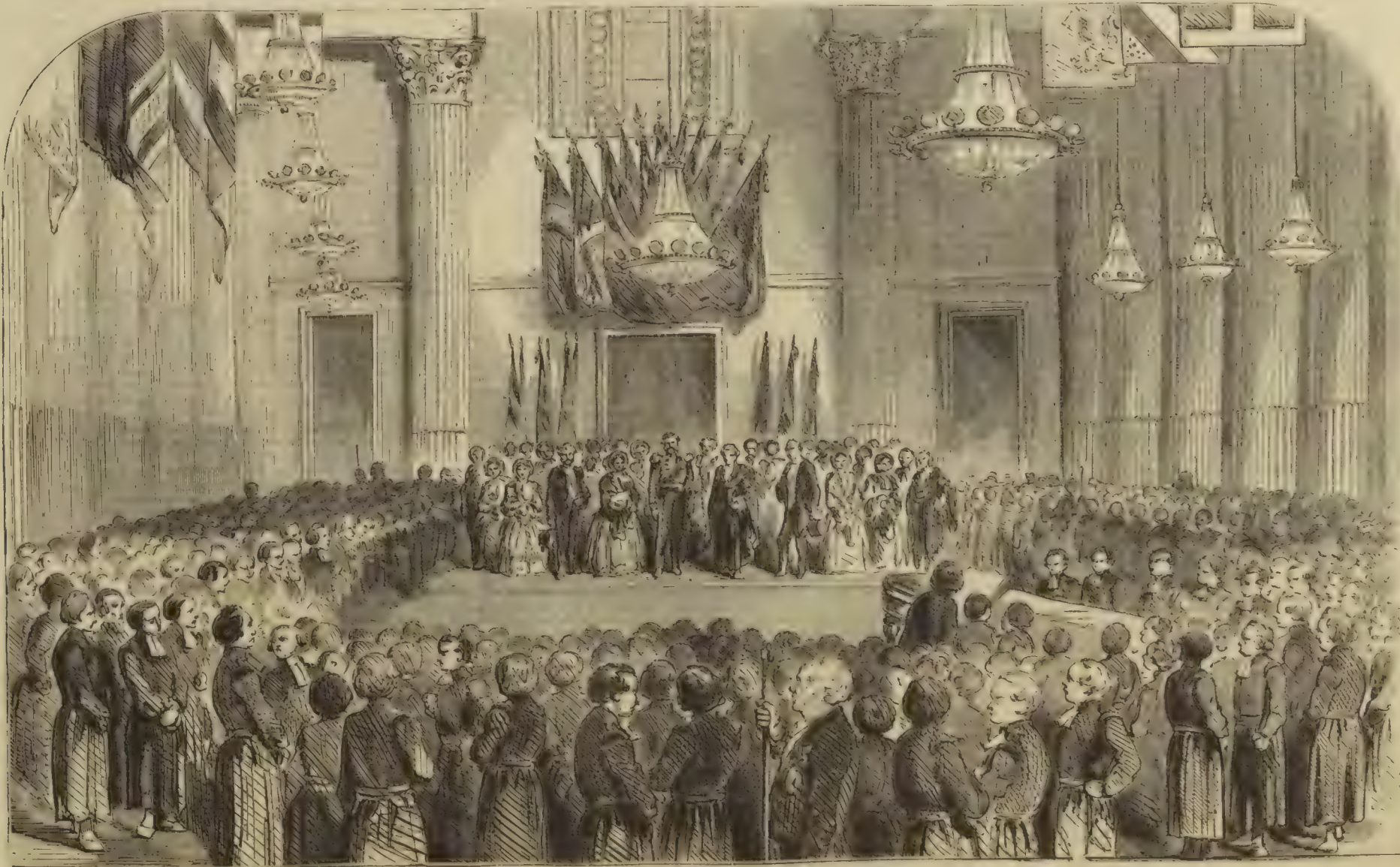
The Lord Mayor, as is usual when the City is honoured with the presence of any member of the Royal Family, met his Royal Highness at the entrance under the great portico, and conducted him to the chair of state in

the drawing-room, where several members of the Corporation were presented to him. They then formed a procession to the parlour, where a sumptuous déjeuner à la fourchette awaited them; after partaking of which they proceeded to the Egyptian-hall, where the presentation took place. On his Royal Highness making his appearance the boys gave three hearty cheers. They then sang the National Anthem, and also a psalm of thanksgiving; at the conclusion of which the Lord Mayor expressed the great satisfaction he felt at receiving the boys in that ancient hall. From year to year young men of genius and talent who had been educated in that noble institution were sent forth to seek their fortunes in the wide world, where many of them had attained to high and honourable positions.

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by his Royal Highness and a great number of the visitors, then proceeded to the drawing-room, where the Lady Mayoress presented the Grecians with a five-shilling piece, the monitors with half-a-crown, and the juniors with a shilling; and, on their passing out, a bun and a glass of wine were given to each.

**SCIENTIFIC CONVERSAZIONE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.**

A *conversazione* of a most agreeable character, and one pre-eminently calculated to promote philosophical research, was given on Wednesday evening, April 11th, by the Master, N. B. Ward, Esq., F.R.S., and Wardens of the Society of Apothecaries, in their Council-chamber, Water-lane, Blackfriars. This society—long and honourably distinguished for the services it has rendered to the cultivation of medical science, by its careful direction of the education of the student, and by its elaborate examinations, which have had for their tendency the elevation of the character, and general attainment of the medical practitioner—gave another proof of its devotion to the advancement of the profession, by collecting together one of the largest assemblages which has ever taken place, of men devoted to the cultivation of science. The wonders of the microscope formed the subject of the evening's entertainment; and never, perhaps, in the history of optical science, has the power of that instrument been so variously or so fully displayed, nor



PRESENTATION OF THE CHRIST'S HOSPITAL SCHOLARS TO THE LORD MAYOR, AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.



the philosophical inquirer so fully furnished with means, both as regards objects and instruments, to behold the greatness and wisdom of the Almighty, as displayed in the minutest objects of creation, as on this occasion. The walls of the great hall were decorated with the most superb drawings and diagrams from the collections of Professors Grant, Quekett, Busk, Carpenter, Letheby, and others; not forgetting some exquisite paintings of zoophytes, by Mrs. Mummery, of Dover. Most of these were on a very large scale, and comprehended many of the most minute and obscure forms from the animal and vegetable kingdoms, exhibiting a connected series from the simplest cell formation up to the highest complexities, so called, of vegetable and animal life—confounding all attempt to distinguish where the one ended and the other began. Beneath these drawings the tables were covered with microscopes—upwards of 100 in number—exhibiting many of the actual organisms, whose representations were suspended above them. Among them we may name:—British sponges, exhibited by Mr. Bowerbank. Zoophytes and medusae, by Drs. Grant and Ansell. Diatomaceae and desmidae, by Mr. Jabez Hogg. Vegetable tissues, &c., by Mr. Loddiges and Mr. White. Phenomena of polarised light, by Mr. Woodward; and a new modification of the same, by means of Herapath's polarising crystals, by Mr. John Furze. Foraminifera, by Dr. Carpenter. Tooth and bone structure, by Mr. E. W. Cooke, A.R.A. Mr. Brooke illustrated the value of careful illumination to the microscopic observer—a point so frequently neglected.

Professors Quekett and Rainey, with Dr. Clarke, presided at one end of the hall, specially devoted to their particular department of anatomy and pathology; and the various makers—Messrs. Smith and Beck, Ross, Powell and Leland, Salmon, and Baker—showed to what perfection emulation had brought their instruments, under the scientific directions of J. J. Lister, Bowerbank, Quekett, Brooke, and others.

We must not omit Mr. Peters' extraordinary specimens of minute writing, which required the aid of the microscope to read them.

On the floor of the hall, surrounded by most beautiful orchidaceous and other plants from Messrs. Loddiges, and Masters, was placed the original vivarium formed by Mr. Ward, and shown by him in Wellclose-square in the year 1831, and which has proved the fruitful parent of others by Messrs. Gosse, Warington, Mitchell, &c., proving incontestably the mutual relation of animal and vegetable life, and their dependence on each other.

In the reception-room was exhibited a collection of photographs of snow-crystals observed by Mr. Glaisher during the late severe weather, and contributed by that gentleman; also a collection of Mexican antiquities from Mr. Christie, unique in its character, and many other scientific appliances.

The assembly was presided over by the Master, N. B. Ward, Esq.; and among the distinguished visitors we observed—the Lord Chief Baron and his son; Mr. R. Stephenson; Professors Bell and Grant; Revs. J. B. Reade and Mr. Binner; Drs. Paris (P.R.C. Physicians), Robert Barnes, Hooker, Nisbett, Hassall, Lankester, R. Bennett, Carpenter, Letheby, Ansell, Druitt, Semple, Farre, J. Webster, Hodgkin, Billing, Todd, Southwood Smith, and Sibson; Messrs. Glaisher, Whitbread, Gasiott, Lavies, Combe, White, R. Heward, Wenham, Grove, Brande, Faraday, Jackson, Redgrave, Pilcher, and many others, amounting to upwards of 600.

Altogether the evening afforded a treat of the highest and purest intellectual gratification; and old Gideon de Laune, apothecary to James I.—whose bust exquisitely carved, graces the hall, and who was followed to the grave by thirty-six children and ninety grandchildren—had still greater reason to be proud of his more numerous scientific and learned progeny.

On Thursday a morning lounge of the ladies of the philosophers, with a large concourse of beauty, rank, and fashion, concluded this instructive and agreeable reunion.

**THE EMPRESS'S DRESSING-CASE.**—On Monday week, on the arrival of the Emperor, his Majesty's dressing-case, containing jewels of great value belonging to the Empress, was taken by mistake to Radley's Hotel, where it remained till the Wednesday following. In the meantime the police were actively engaged in making inquiries for the lost property. Ultimately the case was given to the Lord Mayor, who at once telegraphed to Windsor, and received an answer requesting his Lordship to forward it thither immediately, by one of the Mansion-house officers. Minchell, an officer attached to the Mansion-house, was forthwith dispatched to Windsor with the valuable charge at ten p.m., which he delivered safely into the hands of the Emperor's valet, in the presence of Lord Alfred Paget. The valet gave the officer a receipt for the dressing-case, countersigned by his Lordship.

**THE EMPEROR'S VISIT TO THE CRIMEA.**—While many people are yet doubting of a fact which has never, from the first, been a moment doubtful—the Emperor's fixed intention to go to the Crimea—there appears in the *Constitutionnel* of Monday morning the following very conclusive announcement:—"The camp equipage of the Emperor was sent off yesterday to the south by the Lyons Railway, in charge of several employees of the Menus Plaisirs, who, before their departure, were provided with a complete uniform, and an ample cloak. These men, selected from the best upholsterers of the garde-meuble, will have the care of the Emperor's tent and all its accessories during his Majesty's progress, and it will be their duty to see that the Emperor is properly lodged, wherever he may be." This is the first positive intimation that has appeared in any French paper that the Emperor was going to take the field in person. For a long time the journals were prohibited from alluding to the subject, and later they were only permitted to speak of the project as a contingency. I believe it to be not doubtful that the Emperor will leave Paris on the 10th May (a day already frequently mentioned), if not—which is very probable—sooner. I understand that his Majesty, as Generalissimo of the Allied Forces, will have a staff composed of officers of the four armies, English, French, Turkish, and Piedmontese. —Letter from Paris.

**MR. LAYARD IN LIVERPOOL.**—On Saturday last (April 21st) a déjeuner was given to Mr. Layard by the owners of the Black Ball line of Australian packets, on board their new clipper, the *Donald McKay*. The tables were laid out in the between decks, which was decorated with the flags of all nations, and accommodated about two hundred and eighty persons, including the American, French, and Turkish Consuls, the Mayors of Birmingham, Salford, and other large towns, and several of the principal Liverpool merchants. The chair was taken by Mr. T. M. Mackay, one of the owners, who, after proposing the health of the "Queen," the "Emperor of the French," the "Sultan of Turkey," &c., proposed in a very eloquent and appropriate speech that of Mr. Layard. Mr. Layard, who was greeted with the most enthusiastic cheering, said that a deputation from Liverpool did him the honour of waiting upon him, on a recent occasion, and proposed that he should come forward to represent this place. He felt gratified by such an offer, but could not think of deserting his constituency of Aylesbury, notwithstanding the greater honour that might have accrued from representing such a large commercial town as Liverpool. After a few general remarks with reference to the war, he expressed his opinion that, if a peace had been concluded on the terms of the Four Points, the whole of this war would have been most cruel and unprofitable, and the country would have been placed in a much worse position than if the Vienna note had been accepted. Mr. Layard concluded his speech by a peroration, in which he alluded to the decline of the commercial cities of the middle ages, as furnishing an example and a warning to Britain. After calling upon the assembly to join with him in expressing all abuses, and in endeavouring to "put the right men in the right places," he concluded by proposing, "The Town and Trade of Liverpool," and sat down amidst overwhelming applause.

**THE TELEGRAPH IN THE BLACK SEA.**—The steamer *Lycourgue* brought here on Tuesday last a division of ten employees from the establishment of the French telegraphic lines. The division goes on to Varna to-day, and is to be employed in the service of the line of electric telegraph that will be in action between Schumla and that city about the 15th of the present month. The line between Schumla and Bucharest will be finished towards the end of the month, and the clerks to be employed on it will arrive there from France by way of Germany. When Varna is united to Bucharest, it will be possible, by an extraordinary service, to communicate a despatch from Varna to Paris, and vice versa, in one hour. By the ordinary service a despatch will take ten or twelve hours for transmission. —Journal de Constantinople, April 8.

**WAR MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.**—A large and unanimous public meeting was held at Sheffield, in the Town-hall, on Monday evening. It was convened by the Mayor in pursuance of a requisition signed by about 200 individuals, twenty-two of whom were members of the Town-council. The object in view was expressed thus in the memorial:—"To consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament on the conduct of the Government relative to the war, and in favour of the restoration of Poland, Italy, and Hungary, as the only effectual barriers against Russian aggressions; and further, that Parliament will support the Government in the measures necessary to be taken for the defence of the British Empire, and to the maintenance of the peace of Europe." The memorial was read by Mr. Charles Albert, who, in the course of his remarks, said that the war had been a long and cruel one, and that it was a matter of regret that it was not terminated by a peace which would have been a benefit to all nations. He then proposed that a committee be appointed to consider the memorial, and that they should report to the meeting on the next Monday evening. The committee was appointed, and consisted of Messrs. Albert, Albert, and Albert. The meeting then adjourned till Monday evening next.

**THE CONDEMNED CONVICT, BURANELLI.**—The execution of Luigi Buranelli, according to the judgment passed upon him, be carried into effect, in front of Newgate, on Monday morning, the 28th of April. Great crowds of people were present, and the execution was witnessed by a large number of the public.

**M. Leverrier, director of the Observatory of Paris, is at present at Brussels, the object of his visit being to concert with the director of the Observatory in that city for the determination of the longitudes of Paris and Brussels by electric telegraph.**

## THE BUDGET.

IN our impression of last week we gave an outline of the Budget, which had been so anxiously looked for, both on account of the present position of affairs, and from the circumstance of the occasion being the "first appearance in that character" of the new Chancellor, Sir G. C. Lewis.

The Chancellor estimated the revenue for the ensuing year at £263,339,000, which would leave a deficit of about £23,000,000 to be provided for; and he proposed, therefore, besides the £16,000,000 raised by the Loan, to obtain, by means of direct and indirect taxation, the further sum of £25,300,000 in the following manner:—From an addition of 3s. per cwt. on sugar he expected to gain £1,200,000; from 1d. per lb. extra on coffee, £150,000; from 3d. per lb. additional on tea, £750,000; and by raising the duty on Scotch spirits from 6s. 3d. to 7s. 10d. per gallon, and on Irish whisky from 4s. to 6s. per gallon, he looks for an increase of £1,000,000. In the department of stamps he proposed to lay an impost of 1d. on every cheque drawn on a bank within fifteen miles, now exempt, which he reckoned will produce about £200,000. He is also to add 2d. in the pound, or one per cent, to the Income-tax; and, lastly, to make up the remainder of his deficit, he asked leave to issue £3,000,000 Exchequer Bills—the issue, however, not to take place until the payment of the last instalment of the loan of £16,000,000.

The £5,300,000 to accrue from the above sources of taxation, and the £3,000,000 to be raised on Exchequer Bills, together with the loan of £16,000,000, will give him a fair margin over and above the estimated amount required, but not more, he thought, than was desirable, considering the contingencies of the war expenditure.

For the purpose of forming a sinking fund for the gradual extinction of the loan of £16,000,000, he proposed that, within one twelvemonth after the restoration of peace, there should be set aside £1,000,000 each year towards its liquidation.

It is easy to perceive that the Chancellor, in his mode of raising the amount requisite to cover his deficiency on the year's expenditure, has endeavoured to conciliate several opinions. To appease those who clamoured for meeting our wants by means of a terminable annuity he has thrown a small sop; while, in raising a part by taxation, and the bulk by a loan, he has aimed at stifling objections from others. It has been urged, however, that in this age of increased knowledge and scientific attainment we might have hoped for a higher display of the inventive faculty, as applicable to financial arrangements, than formerly; but the numerous difficulties attendant upon any departure from the beaten track may deter any Chancellor from risking his reputation, by a display of startling originality, at the expense of more sober precedent. His plan of the loan had certainly nothing novel in it, for almost identically the same scheme was adopted in 1835. The loan then was £15,000,000; and for every £100 in money each subscriber had 27s Consols, 22s Reduced, and 13s 7d. per annum Long Annuities. The stock so created was as follows:—

Consols ... ..	£11,250,000	at an annual charge of	£340,875
Reduced... ..	3,750,000	"	113,625
Long Annuities... ..	101,875	"	102,639
	£15,101,875		£557,139

The proposition to redeem the Loan by putting aside one million each year for that purpose is to be understood with the reservation, "if circumstances should permit," and is not to be taken as a definite and absolute undertaking to redeem at a fixed period. In 1804 the Government found itself in a dilemma, owing to a similar promise; to extricate itself from which the nation was saddled with a severe loss. At the commencement of the century, in consequence of the stagnation of trade, the scarcity of specie, the high price of provisions, a general spirit of discontent among the people, and the state of our relations with Foreign Powers, it was thought doubtful whether a loan—then absolutely necessary—could be raised. An appeal was made to the loyalty of the nation, which was not without effect, as eighteen millions were subscribed in a few days. One of the inducements to subscribe for this "Loyalty Loan," as it was called, was the promise that the capital, if claimed, should be repaid within two years after a definitive treaty of peace. The Peace of Amiens—of which it was said, "every man was glad, but no man was proud"—came in 1802; and, accordingly, at the expiration of the two years—namely, in March, 1804—the stockholders of the "Loyalty Loan" demanded the fulfilment of the promise. To comply with the demand, in the then state of the national finance, was impossible, and Ministers therefore effected an arrangement, by which for every £100 of the Loyalty Three per Cent Loan there should be given £100 Navy Five per Cent Stock; and for the difference between the money value of the latter and £100 sterling the stockholder should receive the amount in Three per Cents. The loss to the nation, as will be readily perceived, was most severe.

The amount assumed to arise from the penny stamp on cheques is variously stated by different parties; all, however, agree that its aggregate will greatly exceed that fixed by the Chancellor; some rate it at £700,000, and a few are sanguine enough to believe that in a few years, if the impost be required so long, it will surpass that sum, per annum. Those upon whom it will fall most heavily are the members of the Stock Exchange, the number of whose cheques during each "account" exceeds that of any other body of the commercial community. Private parties will no doubt restrict the number of their cheques within the limits of what may be absolutely necessary, but this cautious economy will, in a little time, give way, and people generally will think no more of the penny cheque stamp than they now do of the penny stamp on a letter, and will use the one as freely as they do the other.

**THE SOUND DUES.**—Official notice of the expiration of the treaty between the United States and Denmark has been sent off from Washington, and is now probably in the hands of the Cabinet of Copenhagen. The result is looked forward to with great curiosity and some anxiety. The first American ship that passes the Sound will, of course, refuse to pay the duty, but will be compelled by force majeure, and have to pay the amount under protest.

**DUTCH SYMPATHY WITH RUSSIA.**—Serious representations have been addressed to the Dutch Government by France and England on the subject of the transit of arms for Russia, which, in consequence of their passage being prohibited by Prussia, now takes place by the Netherlands. It is apparently, in consequence of this application of the Allied powers, that the *Stavits Courant* finds it necessary to reproduce the notice published in 1854, relative to the transport of articles contraband of war on board merchant vessels. —Amsterdam Gazette.

**LORD FORTH.**—The Earl of Perth has written a letter to the papers upon the subject of the painful statements which were made some time ago respecting his son, Lord Forth, late of the 42nd Highlanders. It was said that Lord Forth showed cowardice both at the Alma and in refusing to obey his Colonel's order to go on duty in the trenches before Sebastopol. Lord Perth states that his son carried the colour at the Alma, and behaved to the satisfaction of his Colonel. Before Sebastopol he says that he did for a time refuse to go with a covering party into the trenches, but assigns exhaustion and want of food as the cause; and that, in consequence of an altercation with his commanding officer, he next day applied for leave to resign his commission—a step which, owing to his ill-health, he had previously contemplated carrying into execution as soon as Sebastopol should be taken. Lord Perth accounts for his delay in noticing the statements against his son by stating that he thought it right to communicate with the Colonel of the 42nd before doing so.

**THE LORD MAYOR'S BARONETCY.**—On Monday it was announced to the City authorities, that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to confer the dignity of a baronetcy upon the Lord Mayor of London—now Sir Francis Graham Moon. On Tuesday his Lordship, on taking his seat at the Court of Aldermen, said:—"I think it right to communicate to my brethren the honour that Lord Palmerston has done the Corporation by announcing to me the fact that her Majesty has been graciously pleased to create my chief magistrate a Baronet (Hear, hear). I have received so beautiful a letter from the noble Lord at the head of the Government, that I think it more becoming that that communication should be read before the entire Court of Aldermen and Commoners, than that it should be made public on the present occasion. I have also received, through the French Ambassador, a present from the Emperor of the French, in the shape of a beautiful snuff-box, studded with diamonds. I mention these two gratifying circumstances for the purpose of showing not only the feeling of regard and esteem which is entertained by her most Gracious Majesty towards the Corporation and citizens of London, but also the lively and grateful remembrance which his august Majesty the Emperor of the French retains of the reception he met with on the occasion of his visit to this great city" (Cheers).

**THE IMPERIAL VISIT.** The military made use of on this occasion at Dover consisted of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 1st Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 2nd Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 3rd Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 4th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 5th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 6th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 7th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 8th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 9th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 10th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 11th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 12th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 13th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 14th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 15th Brigade, and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Divisions of the 16th Brigade, and the 1st, 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GRAND STATE BALL AT WINDSOR CASTLE.





No. 740.]

TO THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, APRIL 28, 1855

[VOL. XXVI.]

# VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPERESS OF THE FRENCH.

A SHORT week has now elapsed since the Imperial guests whom our gracious Sovereign and her loyal subjects have so much delighted to honour have left the shores of this country, which, during their sojourn, had been the scene of one continued ovation. The visit is now a *fait accompli*—the facts are in our hands, and a public writer can scarcely have a more pleasing office than to combine, in one succinct and comprehensive narrative, the events of a week destined to form a material landmark in the history of the two greatest countries in the world, and fraught, it is fervently to be hoped, with permanent advantage to both. The time, the personages, and the circumstances of this Imperial visit all combine to invest it with extraordinary interest, and make it one of those events of which a single phase must not be let drop; and the object of this article is to give such a collective impression of the whole as may fix at least its larger features on the memories of the numerous readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. Many and bloody have been the wars between England and France; emulous and straining has been the rivalry between the two countries in arts and arms; but now, at last, the iron glaive has been thrown away, and the open hand of friendship has been freely extended across the Channel—never, it may be hoped, to be withdrawn while the united action of the two nations is necessary for the peace, the civilisation, and the prosperity of the world.

When one reads of the landing of the Sovereign of mighty France

in peaceful guise at the historic chief of the Cinque Ports, accompanied by his young and beautiful wife, and surrounded only by the gay costumes of a brilliant Court, the memory instinctively turns to the former periods when the Royal visits from France boded nothing but war and desolation, and in one instance a subjugation to old England. The glowing pages of Thierry have preserved, in a series of brilliant pictures, the descent of William the Norman and his mail-clad barons, the one great battle of the Conquest, and the long train of sorrows which its results brought on the stalwart Anglo-Saxons. We have had French Kings and Empresses who have come in different guise—as prisoners, or refugees, or suppliants; but now we have, for the first time in a period of more than eight hundred years, the visit of a Sovereign who comes, on the pleasing and equal footing of friendship, to see us at home, to accept our hospitality, and to take back with him to France the best impression of the true sources of our material power, the most irrefragable proofs of our friendship towards himself and towards the mighty people who so unmistakably chose him as their ruler. Every incident of such a visit has a high historical value, and therefore, *ab ovo usque ad malum*, it must be our humble endeavour to preserve them.

On Saturday, the 14th April, 1855, the ordinarily dull little town of Calais gave early indications that something was a-foot calculated to rouse it, for one day at least, from its chronic lethargy. The Place was filled with Imperial fourgons, Imperial liveries flitted to and fro through the narrow streets, and the authorities of the Hôtel de Dessin had assumed the grand Court air of persons who had high and honourable duty in hand. The tricolour hung listlessly from the Hôtel de Ville and the Semaphore, and the regiments of the garrison were under arms at an early hour in

the morning. The English Admiralty packet *Vivid* came into harbour, with Sir Robert Peel on board, and arrangements were speedily made for the departure of the Imperial naval escort. The light and graceful *Pelican*, who was to bear "Cæsar and his fortunes" to the shores of England was soon fuming away with that brisk, cheerful simmer which betokens that the steam-ship is eager to start upon her voyage. The huge *Austerlitz* was got under way; and shortly afterwards the rapid and beautiful English mail-steamer *Queen* shot out of the harbour, with the Prefect of the Seine and a number of Paris civic notabilities on board. They were Baron Haussman, the Prefect; M. Delangles, First President of the Imperial Court of Paris; M. Thayer, Senator, and formerly Post master-General; and M. German, Kibaut, Pilouze, Duparre, and De Clebsattel (the last-named being the French Director of the Dover and Boulogne Postal Steam-packet Company. Shortly afterwards the *Pelican* was under way, and the Emperor and Empress left Calais after the usual leave-takings with Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers, commanding the army of the north, and the whole of the military and civil authorities of the Pas de Calais. The Imperial travellers were accompanied by Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War; the Duc de Bassano, Grand Chamberlain to the Empress; the Prince d'Essling, Counts Montebello, Lizay Maisin, and De Las Marinas. To Captain Smithett, the well-known Channel navigator, was given the high honour and trust of piloting so distinguished a freight safely to the shores of England. A squadron of English and French steamers accompanied the Imperial yacht, and the national air of "Partant pour la

(Continued on page 416.)



VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH TO THE CITY.

Before cutting this Sheet, observe the large Engraving of Windsor Castle, the Frontispiece to the present Volume.





ROLLING THE MINIE RIFLE BARRELS.

## THE MINIE RIFLE.

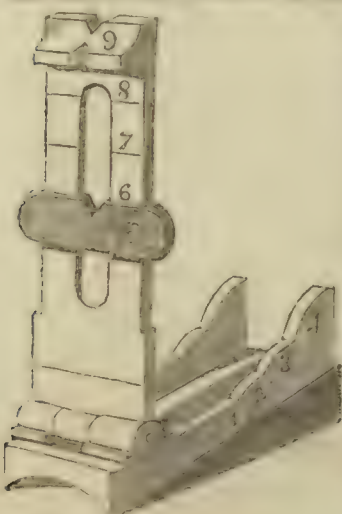
IMPROVEMENTS in guns and locks are so numerous that it has been jestingly said that the Board of Ordnance has a new invention every day offered to them; but the Minie Rifle is in fire-arms undoubtedly the greatest improvement of modern times, after the introduction of the percussion principle in place of the flint and steel.

The use of this Rifle by the British Army during the present war makes it an object of interest as a manufacture. Its peculiarity, as most persons are aware, consists in its having the least possible "windage." By windage is meant the space left between the bullet and the inside of the barrel. The Minie bullet has a chamber at the back, and when the powder explodes it rushes into this chamber, and expands the ball, so that it fits tightly the bore of the barrel as well as the grooves; these grooves are similar to those of any other rifle, but very shallow, in order to prevent any portion of lead remaining in them after the discharge. In this shape the principle cannot be applied to cannon on account of the bullet being of iron.

The Minie Rifle has also a peculiar sight, of which we give an Engraving of the actual size. It enables the marksman to aim at very distant objects with great certainty. This "sight" consists of a steel frame, with a sliding piece tempered to fit as a spring. The upright portion being turned on its hinge, the slider rests upon the level marked No. 1, and this gives the range 100 yards; it is shifted to the next upper step for 200 yards, and so on up to 400 yards. From 500 to 1000 yards are marked by the elevation of the upright piece and the adjustment of the slider thereon, as in our Illustration, where the range is set for 600 yards.

The Minie Rifle can be loaded more quickly than any other, because the bullet may move easily down the barrel; and, from the absence of windage, the explosive force of the gunpowder is not in the least wasted; it, therefore, carries the ball much farther, and more truly to its aim.

Great exactness is required in the inside of the barrel; it must be a perfect cylinder, and no accuracy can be too great. In many of the old muskets—now so well known by the familiar name of "Brown Bess"—the gauge of the exterior is quite true, while, in the process of re-boring previously to grooving for the Minie bullet, the interior of the barrel has been found to differ in its bore to the extent of one-sixteenth of an inch!



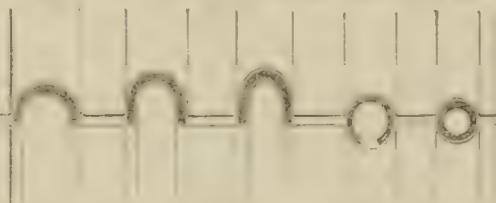
GOVERNMENT MINIE SIGHT.

The process of manufacturing the barrel is in itself extremely simple, although in one particular part of the work there is much difficulty in procuring men competent to its execution—namely, the straightening of the inside of the barrel; and at present there exists no mechanical test by which the correctness of this part of the work can be ascertained. It depends entirely upon the eye.

The iron principally used for the Government rifles is called "Marshall's" iron, and comes from Wednesbury, in Staffordshire. Mr. Marshall possesses some secret (not a patent), by which he is enabled to produce the purest iron, most free from what are technically termed "greys," and this is found to be in all respects equal to the metal composed of twisted fragments.

The iron is procured by the gunmaker in plates about twelve inches long by four inches wide, and three quarters of an inch thick, varying in weight from nine to ten pounds; it is moderately heated, and subjected to the action of a pair of rollers which bend it into a shape called a "mould." It is then placed in the furnace for welding, and is this time brought out nearly in a state of fusion, and passed through rollers which convert it

from a bent piece of iron to a barrel. This process is shown in our first Engraving. The workman withdraws the iron from the fire by means of a mandril—a rod of iron with a small shield attached to prevent the heated portion from slipping to his hand; the rollers take this iron between them, and by their movement draw it off the mandril; it is received in a semi-cylindrical shape by a man on the opposite side; it is then again heated, and passed through other rollers of varied shapes, which bring the two edges gradually together until, after the fifth heating, the iron is withdrawn a



SECTION OF WELDING ROLLERS.

complete cylinder: the gradual change of form is shown in the diagram. The process of tapering towards the muzzle of the barrel is performed in a similar manner. From the rollers the barrel goes to a workman, who welds on what is called the "percussion lump." From him it is transferred to the mill for rough-boring. This is performed by steel "bits," properly hardened and tempered, tapering in the first instance from about half to three-eighths of an inch, the cutting part being about eighteen inches long. These revolve at the rate of 500 times per minute, and three or four of them are used before the barrel comes into the hands of the fine-borer, who works with a different kind of "bitt," not taper, and having only one cutting edge, about fourteen inches long. It is in the processes

of fine-boring and straightening that there is a scarcity of skilled labour of the quality required for the Minie Rifle. The outsides of the barrels are then turned in a lathe, and again submitted to the fine-borer. They are then ground, to reduce the percussion lump to the required dimensions, and to remove the turning marks from the outside. The grinding is a very picturesque process, and has been already engraved in our Number 467, of Feb. 1, 1851, Vol. 18. From the grinder they go the filer, who fits the breech, pin, and sight, and they are then ready to be grooved for the Minie bullet. This is accomplished by the machine represented in our second Engraving: the barrel being securely fixed in two vices, a long steel rod, with a cutter (of which we give a drawing) is inserted in the barrel; this is connected with a cog-wheel working in a horizontal rack sliding on a bar, so adjusted as to allow only the requisite turn to the rod—in the case of the Government rifles, half a turn in the length of the barrel (three feet three inches). Two men move the machine to and fro rapidly, and, when one groove is completed, a slight change in the wheel shifts the cutter, until the three grooves fit exactly the plug furnished by the Government. A piece of wood called a spale is inserted in the split end of the cutter, to tighten it; and the time occupied in rifling each barrel varies from twenty minutes to half an hour. Machinery has been employed for this process; but we believe the hand is still considered the best, as, on meeting any accidental obstruction, it becomes sensible of it immediately. Last comes the Government "proving"—the least satisfactory process to the gunmaker, as he is obliged to fetch away those barrels not approved.

There is much complaint of great delay in the supply of Minie Rifles; but most persons are not aware that, from the time an order is given out until the guns begin to be completed, an interval of from four to six months must elapse. For much of the information contained in this article we have to thank

CUTTER.



RIFLING MACHINE.



the courtesy of Mr. Clive, of Birmingham, and Mr. Adams, of the firm of Deane, Adams, and Deane.

[We have received a letter from Mr. Greener, claiming this rifle as his invention, as far back as 1838, in which year he laid the plan before the Board of Ordnance, when it was tried by a company of the 60th Rifles, under the command of Major Bridges, Royal Artillery, with the most marked success, and so reported to the Board; but it was rejected on the ground of being a compound ("composed of two parts") and thus rendered it unsuitable to her Majesty's service. In the two following years, Mr. Greener states that he used the Rifle much with the same success; and brought it before the public, in a letter written on the 20th December, 1841, and printed in the *Times*, followed by a series of letters on the improvement of military arms at that period. Copies of these letters also appear in the Appendix of Mr. Greener's last work on Gunnery, 1846.—Ed.]

### WAR-ROCKETS AND THEIR MANUFACTURE.

WHEN old Barthold Schwartz invented the sooty compound "gunpowder," which has spread such death and desolation over the world—when his military successors racked their ingenuity to devise the best means of confining gunpowder in cannons, and tried so hard to find the best material for cannon-balls—when every imaginable device was employed to diminish the recoil of great guns, and retain them motionless in their places—military engineers little thought that the time might come when all their cherished hopes and aspirations would be turned clean upside down, and the proposition should assume the shape of seeking to add to the recoil as much as possible, of ignoring cannon balls altogether in a certain variety of ordnance, and making the cannon itself a projectile. Yet so it is. The War-rocket, as we shall presently show, is nothing in principle more or less than a gun, the recoil of which is encouraged to the highest practicable extent—a cannon, which, rushing backwards, expends its momentum on the foe.

It is far from improbable that the rocket is the most ancient of all fire-weapons. Conventionally we are in the habit of referring the invention of gunpowder to old Schwartz, sometime about the year 1320; but there are many arguments capable of being adduced in opposition to this opinion.

Some very plausible authorities could be cited, both ancient and modern, favouring the opinion that gunpowder, and some form of military fire-arms (probably rockets) were known to Asiatic nations so early as the days of Alexander the Great; but for a statement of these authorities we have no space here. Suffice it to remark that the Chinese profess to have been acquainted with the use of war-rockets from time immemorial, and war rockets of enormous dimensions had been made by the Burmese long before Sir William Congreve developed the use of these terrible weapons of fire in our own service.

But to commence our description of the manufacture and construction of war-rockets, let us once more return to the primary idea of the recoil of a gun. The momentum of a projectile being the equivalent of its weight multiplied into its velocity, the deduction follows that in order to develop the recoil of a gun into a really efficient force, some provision requires to be made for prolonging the time of combustion; that is to say, instead of a charge of quickly-burning gunpowder, a charge of comparatively slowly-burning composition must be used; and this consideration brings us at once to the construction of a rocket. The simplest form of a rocket is that of the ordinary sky-rocket, the nature of which is as follows:—A paper case, being contracted or choked at one extremity into a comparatively narrow orifice, is filled with successive small charges of a composition of sulphur, nitre, and charcoal; each charge being tightly rammed down by means of a wooden or metallic cylinder urged by the blows of a mallet or monkey. But this is not all. The rocket composition is not solid; a cylindrical shaft or hole is left in the direction of its long axis for the purpose of affording a large area of simultaneously burning material. The shaft or orifice in question may be either made during the operation of filling by the use of perforated rammers working on a spill, or the rocket may be rammed solid, and bored out subsequently. The latter plan seems to be the best, and it is now adopted in manufacturing the superior descriptions of war rockets. It follows from a consideration of the facts already mentioned that such a case if charged and ignited would not explode on a sudden, as happens with a charged gun, but the charge would occupy some appreciable time in burning, and the recoil first established would grow by successive increments to a powerful projectile force. One thing, however, is evident—the ignited rocket would have no certainty of direction—it would move about with all the uncertainty, and, indeed, something more, of a rudderless ship in a stormy sea. Hence some appendage equivalent in function to a rudder is necessary, and the appendage ordinarily employed is a stick. The accompanying diagram affords a general idea of the structure of a rocket, and the manner of attaching it to the stick. The stick is relatively much longer than here represented; in point of fact it is of such a weight and length as to exactly balance the rocket at the point. Such then is the ordinary paper-cased sky-rocket. Although a mere toy, it is nevertheless a weapon of considerable projectile force. Usually it is made to carry a charge of stars or other ornamental devices, which, becoming scattered at the rocket's point of culmination, imparts a very graceful effect. It is obvious, however, that any material of equivalent weight to the stars or ornamental fireworks, might be made to take their place. Thus an iron shell properly charged with grain powder, might be attached, and a communication established between it and the rocket composition in such a manner that the shell should burst as soon as the rocket composition might be expended. In a similar manner a dart or arrow might be attached, and this indeed is the expedient had recourse to by our ingenious friends the Chinese, whose war-rockets are of the kind depicted in our accompanying Sketch.

Rockets of this description were taken by our troops at the capture of Amoy, and they are now to be seen in many of our public museums.

The next step of development the rocket underwent in becoming a European military weapon was a very obvious one. Instead of paper as a material for the case, iron was used, thus imparting to the weapon greater weight, and consequently greater momentum, by which means its perforating energy and shattering force were both vastly increased.

The merit of introducing the iron case is commonly ascribed to our countryman, Sir William Congreve, but this is erroneous. Rockets having iron cases had long been made in India, before the improvements of that gentleman. To Congreve, however, undoubtedly belongs the merit of imparting to rockets the necessary power and precision for their adaptation to the purposes of civilised warfare.

The first rockets of Sir William Congreve were so nearly identical in shape with that of the ordinary pyrotechnic sky-rocket, that any illustrative sketch is unnecessary. His largest rockets were of enormous size, weighing no less than three hundred pounds, and being seven or eight feet long. Rockets of this size were intended for bombarding, but they have not been found so efficient as Congreve imagined, and are not employed at this time.

The most usual varieties of Congreve-rockets are from ten pounds to thirty-six—the smaller varieties being intended for field purposes, to take the place of field-guns; and the larger varieties for battering and bombarding. Congreve was an enthusiast: he fondly hoped that his war-rocket would banish cannon almost, if not entirely, from the field of battle; but practice soon taught him the fallacy of this opinion. His rockets had power and range enough, considerably more than cannon-balls of corresponding weight; but in one particular they were singularly defective—namely, in accuracy of flight: they would not go straight to their mark, under any conditions of wind and weather, and firing them with effect against or across a wind of only moderate strength, was totally impracticable. Field-rockets were very little employed during the Peninsular War, the Duke of Wellington having been strongly prejudiced against them, and this indeed not without reason. Very soon after Congreve had sufficiently perfected his rockets to admit of their being employed in warfare, some of them were sent to Spain for use by Wellington's army. The Duke naturally desired to have a sample of their powers, so one morning, his army being on one side of a hill, and the enemy at a tempting distance on the other, he thought he might as well try what Congreve's destructives could do. The exhibition was most discreditable to them. Unfortunately their line of intended flight had to cross the wind, a condition which interfered with them to such an extent that, turning their tails to the enemy, they came back hissing and spitting amidst the legions of the Duke. His Grace entertained a dislike of rockets from that day forward, and never encouraged their employment. However, they did good service against the enemy on the

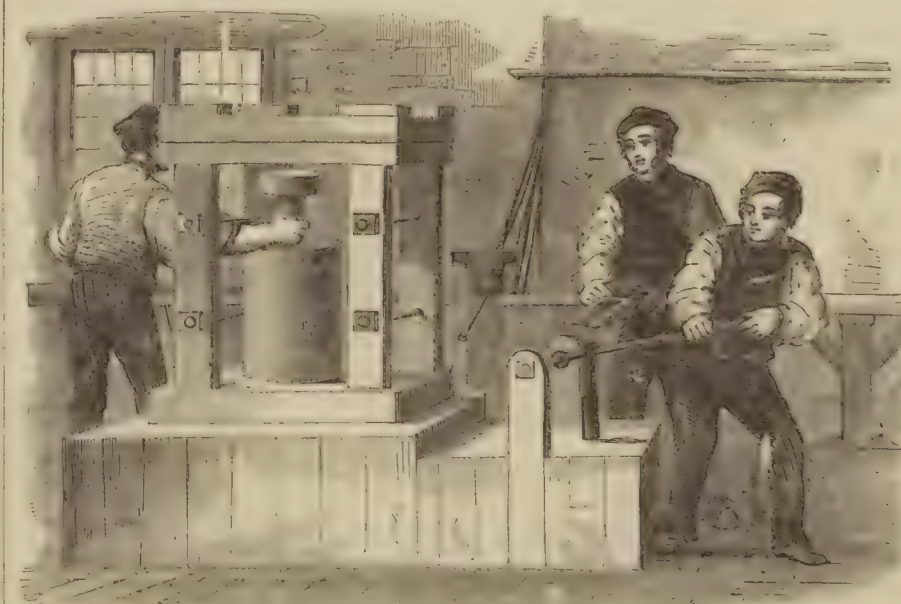
occasion of crossing the Adour, having saved from destruction a brigade of English troops.

If the war-rocket was not destined to manifest all its terrors in the Peninsula, a different fate awaited it at Leipsic. The only British soldiers present on that occasion were some of our newly-established rocket brigade. One volley having been discharged against the enemy the extreme of terror pervaded his ranks. Never since the introduction of fire-arms had such terrible missiles of destruction been seen—of what kind they were, how propelled, how to be avoided, the enemy could not tell. To stand against these fell messengers of death was deemed hopeless, therefore almost without a moment's hesitation the troops against which these rockets were directed laid down their arms. If we mistake not, the war-rockets which did such terrible execution at Leipsic were formed exactly like sky-rockets, with one sole exception—they were made with iron cases, instead of paper ones. Their sticks, like those of the ordinary sky-rockets, were lateral; owing to which construction the flight of the missile—always erratic under the most favourable circumstances—was far more deviant than it would otherwise have been. Congreve next turned his attention to the proposition of imparting to the flight of the rocket the straightness of that of an arrow, for which purpose it was absolutely necessary that the lateral stick should be removed, and a central one supplied its place. The solution of this problem rendered necessary some extensive modifications in the construction of rockets. These we shall now proceed to explain, prefacing our remarks by a representation of the Congreve-rocket, as it at present exists.

By referring to this diagram, it will be seen that the stick is no longer lateral, but central, occupying the place of the vent, or orifice in the ordinary sky-rocket. It follows, then, that some new provision must be made for the exit of the propulsive flame. Such provision exists in a number of peripheral holes surrounding the central orifice—an arrangement which will be rendered perfectly intelligible by reference to the front view of the stick end of the rocket.

The reader has now fairly before him all the improvements which Sir William Congreve effected for the war-rocket. By his latest modification—namely, the central stick—the projectile was rendered more adapted for propulsion out of a tube, and the general accuracy of its flight was much increased. A word, now, concerning the method of firing these rockets. When especial accuracy of range is required, they are ignited at one extremity of a tube supported on legs, like a large telescope, and elevated to the necessary angle of altitude; but when extreme accuracy of range is a secondary consideration, and the effect sought to be gained depends on one large flight or salvo of rockets discharged at an object of considerable magnitude—such, for example, as a dense mass of infantry or cavalry—then what artillerymen term the ground volley is had recourse to; that is to say, a row of rockets being placed flat on the ground, with their heads pointing in the required direction, and their vents connected by a train of quick-match, one end of the match is ignited by means of a perfire, and the rockets being thus inflamed almost at the same instant of time dash forwards still in a row. For the first hundred or hundred and fifty yards they do not ascend very high from the ground level; after this they usually ascend to the breast height of a man, or even higher, and spread death and desolation in their track. The theoretical advantages of rockets over cannons are numerous and important. For instance, a cannon loses its aim, owing to recoil after every discharge; and, during the height of battle, there is usually so much smoke that the instant for taking a correct second aim occurs only at rare intervals. The discharge of a rocket, on the contrary, involves no recoil. The rocket itself is the recoiling mass—from which consideration it follows that a rocket-tube, having been once correctly aimed, should need no further adjustment. Again, this same force of recoil is a serious impediment to the use of heavy ordnance on ship-board; mortars especially are open to this objection; but a rocket admits of being fired with perfect safety from a boat or raft only large enough to float it. Again, the size of shell and shot is limited by various conditions. It is obviously useless to construct shells and shot of larger dimensions than guns can be cast to throw, or, if cast, admit of being moved wherever required. In practice nothing heavier than a 13-inch mortar can be cast with safety, or moved without extreme difficulty; whereas rockets, requiring no extraneous propulsive force, may be made almost of any size. Proceeding with our enumeration of the theoretical advantages possessed by rockets over ordinary artillery, the non-military reader will easily understand the difficulty which attends the transport of cannon in mountainous regions, whereas rockets admit of being carried with extreme facility. If, then, the flight of rockets were only as correct as the flight of shot and shells, all that Congreve, in his enthusiasm, hoped for their use might be realised; they might supersede guns wholly, or for the most part. Practice, however, has by no means confirmed these hopes; on the contrary, war-rockets now play a very secondary part in military and naval operations. Will they continue to do so? We think not. Under the auspices of Mr. Hale these missiles have received altogether a new phase of development; one which, in all probability will, be found to place them as far in advance of

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WAR-ROCKET MAKING.—THE HYDROSTATIC-DRIVING PROCESS.

Congreve's improvements, as the latter were in advance of their prototypes of Indian and Chinese celebrity.

The reader will have gathered from our preceding remarks that the great source of difficulty as regards the accuracy of flight of rockets in general is their tails. Without this caudal appendage a rocket was supposed to be incapable of any amount of accuracy of flight whatever; with tails, rockets persisted in moving in most unaccountable curves and zigzags. Mr. Hale applied his best energies to the problem of lopping off the tail altogether, and, nevertheless, maintaining accuracy of flight. In this he appears to have succeeded absolutely. A Congreve ten-pounder, from point of nose to tip of tail, measures somewhat about ten feet; but the vital, death-dealing, fire-spitting part of the combination will be somewhere about thirteen inches; consequently, Mr. Hale begins by lopping off a broomstick-like appendage of some eight feet nine inches long; and, notwithstanding this extensive caudal amputation, the fiend-like thing, far from losing any of its powers, is a considerable gainer. Tails cost money, too, as our readers may infer; but the amount of gain will be best realised by the statement that, supposing the manufacture of Congreve-rockets to be abandoned at our Woolwich arsenal altogether, and Hale's rockets to be adopted in their stead, the annual saving would amount to no less a sum than thirty thousand pounds! But how, it may be asked, is it that Mr. Hale, having removed the tails of rockets altogether, manages to give them accuracy of aim? He accomplishes

this by making the line of gravity to correspond with the line of flight—the result of a very ingenious application of the rifle principle. The rifling is partly given by the tube from which the rocket is fired, and is partly secured by an ingenious construction of the rocket itself.

It is not a little amusing to go into Mr. Hale's atelier and see the enormous amount of destructiveness packed into a diminutive space. You are a votary of the narcotic weed, perhaps, and your eyes, resting on some nice little cigar-boxes as they seem, wonder how on earth cigars could have got into a region where smoking is absolutely forbidden. You are inclined to help yourself, fancying that Mr. Hale, in his benevolence, has provided some choice Havannahs for your special delectation. You approach one of the little boxes, and are about to raise the lid, when the benevolent-looking fabricator of death quietly says, "Have a care, sir, they are ten-pounders, ready packed for a field-day at Shoeburyness! Now this concentration of propulsive energy into little cigar-boxes, may seem a trivial matter in itself, but a military man, from experience, knows the reverse. He will tell you that Congreve's rocket-tails require long boxes—that long boxes are very unmanageable things—in short he will expatiate far more than we have done on the trouble they entail on the transport and military services. Every other item in the Artillery department is close and compact, but rocket-tails have all the bad travelling qualities of a lady's band-box. Not one of the least useful qualities of Mr. Hale's rockets is this:—owing to their extreme compactness and portability the smaller varieties of them seem adapted for the arming of infantry for special services. A rocket



WAR-ROCKET MAKING.—THE MONKEY-DRIVING PROCESS.

of the new construction—in size not much larger than a stout man's middle finger, and in length about equal to the same standard of comparison—has actually been projected two thousand yards, and from a tube almost as portable as a pocket-pistol. Now it is considered highly desirable by military men to devise and bring into operation some form of infantry projectile having a longer range than the Minié rifle. The small rocket adverted to seems to be endowed with this quality. Of course, no one ever assumes that rockets, however portable, will take the place of muskets and rifles; but nevertheless, on certain special occasions they may have their advantages. The new war-rocket was brought under the consideration of the United States military authorities some years since, and, after satisfactory trials, finally adopted.

It was also adopted by the Swiss Government, and is now being prepared in our own arsenals, to supersede, in all probability, the central stick rocket of Congreve.

Amongst other improvements introduced by Mr. Hale, in the manufacture of rockets, not the least interesting is the adoption of hydrostatic pressure in place of ramming by mallets or monkeys. The advantages thus gained are numerous; not only is the operation of filling much more expeditiously performed, but it is also safer, and a much larger amount of composition can be got into a case of given dimensions. When the monkey-driving process of ramming is followed, the rocket charge occasionally ignites, in consequence of the compression of a layer of air against it, an accident which can never occur under the hydrostatic treatment. Moreover, the monkey-driving process gives rise to an inflammable cloud of gunpowder-dust, highly injurious when breathed, and peculiarly subject to ignition; by adopting the new process, not only is this avoided, but rammers of iron or steel can be substituted for those of wood or gun-metal—both of these materials scarcely hard or tough enough for withstanding the violent pressure necessary to give a due amount of consolidation to the impacted charge. Those who are conversant with the vast amount of pressure that admits of being exercised by hydrostatic force need not be told that the process is efficient in effecting the end for which

it is designed—namely, consolidation of the impacted material into a stonelike mass; nevertheless, it may be interesting to state that the exact pressure brought into operation is as near as may be seven tons to the square inch. We shall conclude this article by appending two Illustrative Views—the first representing the monkey-driving process had recourse to for the charging of Congreve-rockets; the second the hydrostatic process for accomplishing a similar end, adopted by Mr. Hale.

**AFRICAN DISCOVERY.**—Her Majesty the Queen of Spain has been graciously pleased to transmit to the widow of his Excellency the late Governor Becroft a diploma, dated March 29th, 1854, constituting him a Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic, in consideration of his services as Governor of Fernando Po, Annobon, and Carisco. The diploma was received by Lord Clarendon from her Majesty's Consul at Tenerife, to whom it had been delivered by the Spanish Commissioner in the Canary Islands, with a request that it might be forwarded to the family of Mr. Becroft as a proof of the esteem in which her Catholic Majesty's Government held his long services. Her Majesty in 1844 granted to Mr. Becroft the Cross of a Knight of the Royal Order of Isabella. Mr. Becroft, whose services in Africa are well known, ascended the Niger in 1835, when he made a chart of the river, which contains all that is known of the navigation which has excited so much inquiry, and paved the way for the trade and civilisation of that part of Africa. Mr. Becroft was requested by Lord Clarendon to take the command of the late Niger Expedition: his lamented death deprived them of his assistance, but his valuable information will, no doubt, be long remembered and acted upon by those who were fortunate enough to receive it.

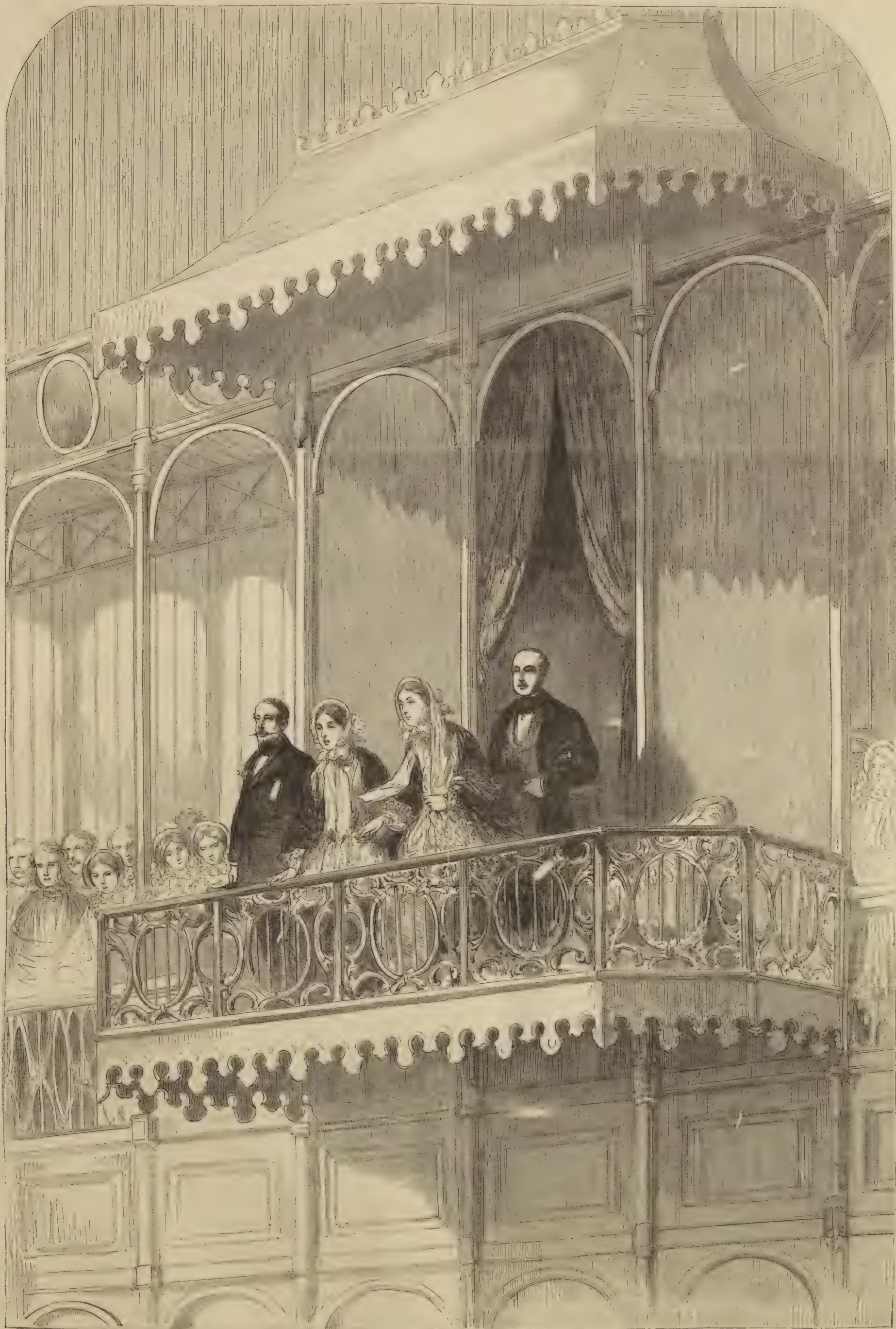
HALE'S  
ROCKET.





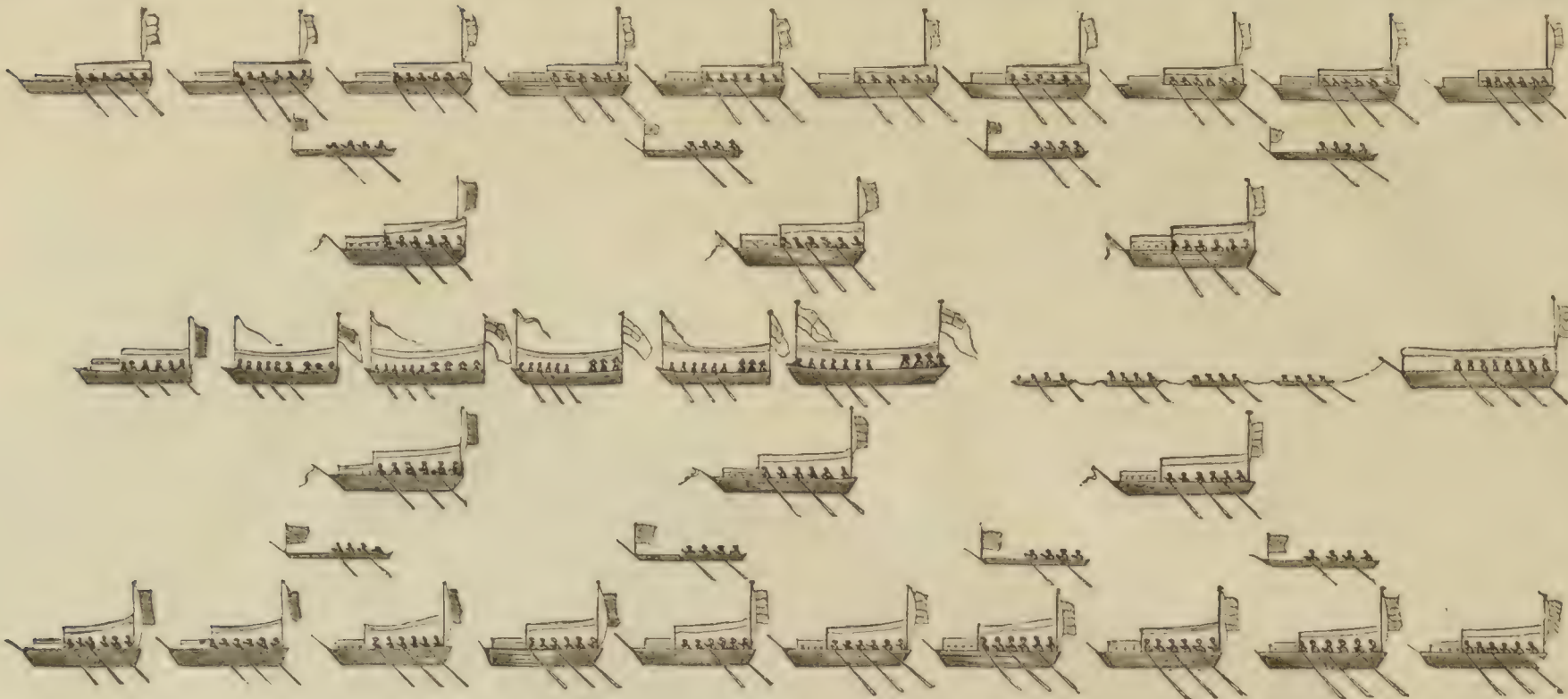
THE CRYSTAL PALACE AT SYDENHAM.





THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AND QUEEN VICTORIA AND PRINCE ALBERT.





PROCESSION OF BOATS TO THE CITY OF NAGASAKI.—FROM A JAPANESE SKETCH.

THE LATE EXPEDITION TO JAPAN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE account published in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, of the 13th January last, accompanied by sketches of the scenery, dwellings, vessels, groups, &c., appears to have had much interest for the public. You will therefore, perhaps, give them the boat procession, exactly as it was drawn by Oto, the Japanese Interpreter; indeed the paper is a tracing from his. You can also give the Imperial Standard, taken by tracing from one of the large Imperial lanterns, which was observed on board the *Winchester* only on one grand special occasion. The officers in charge showed much unwillingness to allow the tracing to be taken. In their opinion it was something sublime and sacred, and it was only when they were well assured that it would always be treated with respect, that they allowed it.

Mit-zo-

no-

chick-fu-

so-

no-

Kami

(rank and title)

JAPANESE AUTOGRAPH.

水野筑波守様

Their destination is the same; like them they are always found in the loveliest spots, on the richest soil, near the large towns, surrounded by verdure, beauty, magnificent trees and blooming flowers. You approach by a broad smooth alley between even rows of gigantic cypress-trees. You enter a spacious court, green velvet well spread; several temples may surround this, but the principal one stands in front of you, and sometimes when the mias stands on a slope, you mount by fine granite steps; a large basin, or vase, filled with water for the ablutions, stands near the entrance, and also a large wooden chest for alms. The buildings are strangely constructed by ingenious interlacing and equipoise of well-designed brickwork. When the worshipper arrives, he strikes the large bell three times, to let the gods know he is come, and then burns bits of perfumed wood, vegetable candles, and white paper, the emblem of purity.

The chief Kami, or Dai-ri, resides at Miako. He claims to be the lineal descendant of that great Zeumou who consolidated in one nation various erratic hordes, A.D. 660 (which corresponds with the seventeenth year of the

Chinese Emperor Hwei-wang). He was the first deified; and after him other heroes, famous for wisdom, courage, or conduct, also received divine honours after death. No doubt our friend at Nagasaki, who was commissioned by the Emperor to treat with our naval Commander-in-Chief, will obtain his apotheosis. I send you his signature, which is read from top to bottom; the last character means "Kami."

We were told that the chief Kami is so highly venerated, that all the others are obliged to visit him once a year, and to pass the tenth month with him. So during this month no other fête is held in the empire; people think all the gods have left their temples for the Mikado's court at Miako.

The Imperial standard of triple lobe symbolises the three annual and three monthly festivals. 1st. The great new year, which lasts a month. 2nd. The feast of spring, which is held on the third day of the third month: it is that of the flowers and (graceful alliance!) the young maidens. 3rd. The feast of the "neighbours," which is generally so decidedly in the "we-won't-go-home-till-morning" style, that one would suppose the Bacchanalian rites of ancient Rome had found their entrance into Japan. The three monthly festivals are the day of the new moon, the day of full moon, and the eve of the new moon.

The Sintoists propose to themselves happiness in this life as the chief good, and have only an obscure idea of the soul's immortality and of rewards and punishments in a future state. Although they do not believe in the transmigration of souls, as most Orientals do, they neither kill nor eat the flesh of useful animals, because they consider it cruelty and ingratitude to do so. Those who concern themselves about a future life believe that the souls of the just go to the thirty-second heaven, i.e., the stage just below the one occupied by the Kamis. The wicked are not consigned to everlasting punishment, but are to be kept galloping about, on foot or on horseback, as long as is necessary for the expiation of their crimes; and their devil is the fox—"probably" (observes M. Frassiniet), because this animal makes great ravages in their country." It would be a curious investigation to trace out at what time, and how, so flourishing a graft of this portion of Japanese Sintoic theology found its way into the noddies of the squirearchy of Leicestershire, and other "gentlemen of England who live at home at ease." The Sinto lays great stress on purity, internal and external. Purity of heart consists in following the laws of nature, those of reason, and the orders of the magistrate; external purity demands that none should be stained with blood, nor eat flesh; and none must touch, or even see, a dead body. If a man cut his finger he must be impure, and excluded from the presence of the gods for seven days. A workman at a temple, if cut, is quickly replaced. It is still worse if it be a temple of the sun; for, in that case, if a workman's blood stain the edifice, it must be pulled down and begun again. They have a gradual scale of defilement—thirty days for having eaten the flesh of a quadruped; only one hour for fowl, or any bird; one day for having slain an animal, being present at an execution, or found near a dying person. The greatest defilement is the death of a relation, which varies according to the degree of proximity.

Oto told us that the Yammabos, or hill priests, are skilled in magic science; they profess to cure sick men by writing on paper the history of their complaint, they then cut this up and roll it into pills, which they administer to the patient with sundry cabalistic evolutions, with unquestionable success. These Yammabos manage the Blind Brotherhood of Senminar, founded by a son of the first Emperor. He was a young man of extraordinary beauty; a Princess of the Imperial family fell desperately in love with him; her passion was warmly responded to, but the bliss of the lovers was of short duration; the young lady—a paragon of loveliness—died at eighteen, and poor Senminar was so grieved that he wept his eyes out of his head; and, in order to perpetuate the memory of his lost love, he founded, under the Imperial seal, a "Brotherhood of the Blind," which benefited vast numbers. It was at last eclipsed by another, that of the "Feki Blind," which includes some of the great people of Japan. This society owes its origin to the following circumstance: In a civil war between the Gendai and the Feki, Yoritomo and his Gendai gained the day. Kalekigo, one of the most illustrious defenders of the vanquished party, was invited by Yoritomo, who knew his worth, to accept under him whatever post he wished to fill. Kalekigo replied—"I have served a good master, I mean to rest faithful to him. Yet I am under great obligations to you; it is to your clemency that I owe my life; and it is my misfortune that I am not able to turn my eyes towards you without longing to avenge by your death the woes of my Prince as well as my own. Receive, then, those eyes, which gaze hostilely on you; it is all I can offer you," and he tore out his

nor worship, and have nothing to do with the rites of the Sintoists nor Buddhists, except what etiquette demands. They do not burn their dead. They keep the body three days; then put it in a coffin, filled with aromatic antiseptic herbs. When all is prepared, they accompany the dead man to his grave on the hill-side, and bury him there in a very simple, quiet manner. Not only do they think suicide allowable, but they even regard it as heroic and meritorious, when it offers the only means of escape from a shameful end, or the disgrace of falling alive into the hands of a victorious enemy. These Sintoists are supposed to secretly favour Christianity; and therefore they are required to place an image, or at least the name of one of the gods usually adored, in the position of honour, with a vessel of flowers and a censer before it, in each dwelling.

In the Procession of Boats may be observed five bearing the British flag. In the first was the band, in the last the Admiral's suite. The Japanese boats took up their stations in the most perfect order, as represented, every one of which was distinguished by some flag. I send a Drawing of a few of these small flags, which are about a yard wide, a yard and a half long, brilliant in red, blue, black, and white. These denote the different guards and departments:—1st. There is the Guard of the Port, the Customs, Commissariat, Police, Messengers, Naval and Military. The Port-guard keep a journal, in which they enter the names of all persons, and even the least articles which enter and leave the isle. The Governor of Nagasaki inspects this journal once a month. Nothing is allowed to pass without an order from him or the Ottona, except the usual daily imports of necessity; and nothing reaches the Dutch, except through three sworn searchers. We laughed at a story about a Dutch captain, who used to wear a large robe of blue silk with

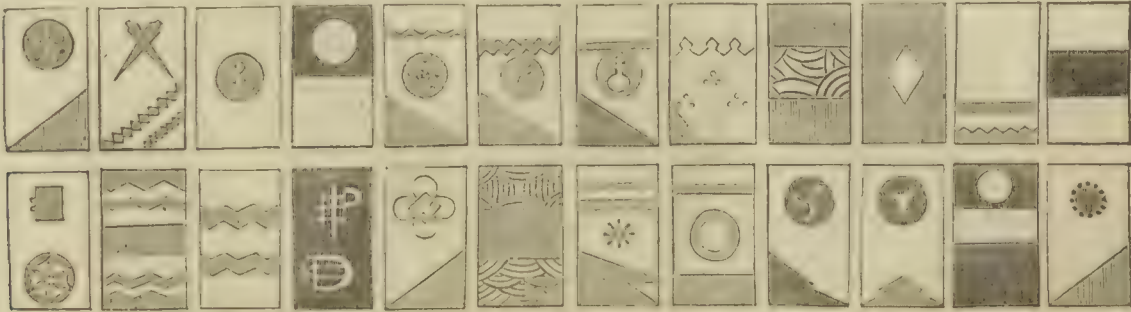


THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL STANDARD.

silver lace, *en Louis XIV.* Under its ample folds he conveyed, three times day, such quantities of contraband goods that two sailors could scarcely get him along. All his officers, and others, did the same, until the Governor gave them a hint to change the style of their dress. The good people of Nagasaki, believing that all Dutch captains must be very stout, were completely mystified when they saw them all at once reduced to the ordinary size. The second guard is the "patrol." All night long you hear them mark the hours by striking two pieces of wood together; they have their boats and flags. There are other guards specially charged with the surveillance of strangers; the principal is the Imperial Guard, kept partly by the Governor and partly by the Prince-governors of the two provinces next to Nagasaki. Its circle of inspection extends about three miles round the town. Then there is the Fonnaban, or "Guard of all vessels," who have charge of the bay and all adjoining waters. It is composed of eighteen soldiers, having at their disposal guard-boats and rowers. When a foreign vessel enters the harbour, two of these boats, commanded by an officer, station themselves on each quarter. They are relieved every two hours while the vessel remains at Nagasaki; when she goes to sea, they accompany her outside. The coast-guard next take charge of her. Their duty is to see that the junks shall only unload at Nagasaki; and, when they have time, their duty is to try their hands at whaling. Lastly, the Toniban, or *far-seeing guard*, composed of twenty soldiers, who live, with their families, on a hill commanding the Dutch and Chinese factories. They watch the sea with telescopes, and have a staff of light fast boats ready to tend to the Governor, if anything unusual is seen.

One of their highest watch-towers is a most picturesque object when seen from the bay, it is called "the mountain of flowers;" they keep a mass of combustibles there, which the sentinel has orders to light if he sees ten or more sail approaching, or even one Portuguese; or any popular movement in the neighbouring island. All these guards keep up a great degree of emulation among themselves; and they frequently told us, that their business was quite as much to watch each other as to keep their eye on strangers.

On one occasion several officers came up to the writer with a large bundle of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and pronounced, several times, with much energy the name "Wellington," making signs that they wanted to see his portrait. After a brief search, the old Duke's face was found. No, no—it was our big ship they wanted to see; they had heard that we had built the largest man-of-war steamer afloat. When the Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS containing a fine Engraving of that splendid ship was shown to them they were delighted. "The eyes of the ignorant are more learned than their ears;" and to these people, ignorant of our language, that engraving proclaimed our vast power and progress.



JAPANESE FLAGS.

eyes. Yoritomo, astounded at such magnanimity, loaded him with honours, and the blind General founded the Feki Society for the Blind. These people are taught to maintain themselves by work. They are employed in public festivals, processions, and at marriages. They are dispersed all over the empire; but the General and the principal directors of the society, who exercise great power over the numerous members, live at Miako.

Buddhism teaches the Japanese that the souls of men and animals are immortal, of similar material, and differing only in the nature of the bodies they animate. When the soul of man is separated from the body, it receives, at once, its reward in a place of happiness, or its punishment in "another place." The dwelling of the "blest" is called "The Place of Eternal Delights." There are various degrees of bliss, but all so pure that every one is content with his own share. Amida presides here. It is by his mediation, alone, that men can gain admittance. How are men to propitiate Amida? By virtue, and keeping the "law of Siaka." This is comprised in the "Gokai," or "five

laws" Short enough they are:—*Se Se*—Don't kill; *Trou-to*—Don't steal; *Suin*—Be chaste; *Mago*—Stick to truth; *Onsou*—Abstain from strong drink. Buddhists believe in a purgatory and transmigration. The first statue of Buddha was introduced into Japan A.D. 550.

The law of Confucius, in Japan, differs from that in China. They call it Siouto, or the "Path of wise men." A leading principle in it is that the greatest perfection, and chief happiness of men, consists in the calm delight felt by the spirit in a wise and virtuous course of life. Their doctrine may be comprised in five precepts which are expressed by five monosyllables, viz:—

1. Dsin—To live virtuously.
  2. Gi—To do justice to all.
  3. Re—Be affable and polite.
  4. Tsi—Propagate and defend the maxims of a good and wise Government.
  5. Sin—Have a pure conscience and an honest heart.
- They do not believe in transmigration—they admit neither gods temples,



## THE PARTITION OF POLAND: THE DISMEMBERMENT AND FIRST PARTITION.

THE dismemberment and first partition of Poland, in 1772, and the final partition and total annihilation of the independence of that country, in 1793, by the machinations of the Empress Catherine II., of Russia, assisted by the Courts of Berlin and Vienna, are among the most disgraceful acts in history. England, whose duty was, as one of the leading nations in the world, to maintain inviolate the sacredness of treaties and the rights and liberties of Europe, looked on with indifference. "I will bribe Austria, I will terrify Prussia, soothe France, and flatter England," said the bold Czarina, in a communication to one of her favourites. Her subsequent actions prove that she did not speak idly or in a boastful spirit. From any other Sovereign such an avowal would have excited derision; but, coming from the mouth of so astute and resolute an intriguer as Catherine, they inspire, even at the present day, the admiration and the wonder of politicians. "It was an ingenious contrivance (says M. Spittler, in his "Sketch of the History of the Governments of Europe") formed in a truly Roman style, and completed accordingly. Not only was a numerous and a free nation to be deprived of its liberty and national existence, but all Europe was to be lulled to sleep. The annexations of Louis XIV. were a trifle in comparison to what Catherine performed in Poland and against that country. But what loud and violent cries were raised against the former, and in what soft murmurs did the voice of truth repeat the ancient law of nations, when there ceased to be no longer any law between Russia and Poland!"

Had Great Britain taken up the cause of that outraged country as she has taken up the cause of Turkey, it is possible that the war now raging in the Crimea might never have cursed the world. The great truth, that "the faults of the fathers are visited on the children of the third and fourth generation," is being felt at the present day. But it is useless to dwell upon a point so painful. The noble manner in which the cause of Turkey was taken up by the Allies, and the zeal with which the war has been conducted, are proofs that England and France will not again suffer a bullying despot to destroy, in his lust of dominion, the nationality of an independent people.

In order fully to comprehend in what way Poland was subjected to so gross an outrage as that perpetrated by the Empress Catherine, it will be necessary to take a summary glance at its internal condition. We seek in vain among the extant nations of the world for a Government precisely similar to that of Poland. In the early ages the country was governed by a race of hereditary Kings vested with almost absolute power. These were succeeded by the "Piasts," who are represented to have been elected from among the nobility, with no power to transmit the crown to their children; but who, nevertheless, long preserved it in their family. The nobles perceiving that the old electoral laws were likely before long to be entirely obliterated from the national archives, unless they exercised some check upon the Piasts, formed themselves into powerful confederacies, and kept the country in a state of perpetual turmoil. At last, on the death of Louis, the last of the Piasts, the nobles boldly restored the long-forgotten laws, and raised to the Polish Throne Ladislaus Jagellon, Duke of Lithuania. With every succeeding reign the power of the nobles increased, until at length, at the time of Sigismund, that body drew up a Charter enforcing the ancient law of election, and compelled the King to sign it. The four principal articles of this important Charter are as follows:—

- 1st. That the Crown should be elective, and that the King should never have it in his power to give it to a successor during his lifetime.
- 2nd. That general Diets should be assembled every two years.
- 3rd. That the Polish nobility should have the right of sufrage in the election of a King.
- 4th. That if the King should take upon himself to infringe the laws and undervalue the privileges of the nation, the subjects should be absolved from their oath of fidelity.

On the death of Augustus III., Catherine saw that, by a little intrigue, she could easily exalt herself to the important position of Guardian to the vacant Throne and Umpire in the election of the new King. Her first step was to induce the Courts of Vienna and Versailles to refrain from any interference in Polish affairs; and her next to secure the friendship and confidence of England. These important points gained, Prussia was the only Power whose opposition was likely to be troublesome. Frederick was easily persuaded to enter into her views, and concluded with her a treaty which was highly conducive to the success of her projects, and which contained the following secret article:—

It being for the interest of his Majesty the King of Prussia and of her Imperial Majesty the Empress of All the Russias to exert the utmost care and effort to maintain the Republic of Poland in its state of free election, and that it should not be permitted to any one to render the same kingdom hereditary in his family, his Majesty the King of Prussia, and her Imperial Majesty have promised and mutually engaged themselves in the most solemn manner by this secret article, not only to permit no one, whoever he may be, to attempt to divest the Republic of its rights of free election, to render the said kingdom hereditary, or to make himself absolute therein; but also by every possible means and in common council to frustrate such views and designs that have a tendency that way, as soon as they shall be discovered; and even, in case of necessity, to recur to force of arms to defend the Republic from the overthrow of its Constitution and fundamental laws.

So dexterously had Catherine managed these "little plots" that, on the formal declaration of the vacancy of the Polish Throne, all Europe looked towards her as the lawful head of the election; and candidates of whatever rank, whether small Dukes or great Kings, were content to abide by her decision. She felt sure of her position, and arranged the business which had been courteously conceded to her in as bold and independent a manner as if the Crowned Heads of Europe were so many Russian vassals. The cutting answer which she returned to the King of Saxony, who made warm applications for the vacant throne, will serve to illustrate the general tone of superiority which she assumed. "As a friend," wrote the Empress to the sanguine candidate, "I should merely advise you not to expose your interests in an affair which in the end cannot possibly come up to your expectations." Several other applications were made; and for each candidate she was ready with a suitable reply. All at once, and contrary to expectation, her choice lighted upon a young man named Poniatowsky—a person of obscure birth, and with whom she had had a scandalous intrigue. Poland was shocked at the proposal. But, as nothing was more necessary to her schemes of aggrandisement than that the throne should be filled by some minion on whom she could depend, the Empress resolved to support her protégé at all risks. She accordingly wrote to Count Kaysersling, her Minister at Warsaw, desiring him to exert all his influence in behalf of Poniatowsky. One of her despatches to that officer contains the following significant sentence:—"My dear Count, pray remember my candidate. I write this at two o'clock in the morning. Judge whether the affair is indifferent to me."

But, as mere intrigue appeared to Catherine insufficient to ensure the desired success, she contrived to obtain an excuse for bringing physical force to bear upon the question. On the very day, therefore, that the Diet had assembled to discuss the unreasonable pretensions of the Empress, a Russian army entered Warsaw on pretence of preserving tranquillity. Russian agents, disguised as peasants, at the same time mingled with the crowd, ready to support Poniatowsky by their votes. At this extremity the more zealous among the patriots flew to arms. But, alas! for unhappy Poland, the armies of Russia were the masters of the capital. The Diet was thrown into confusion. Count Malakoffsky, Marshal of Poland, in vain endeavoured to clear the room of strangers. Hardly had the last words issued from his lips than sabres were seen to glide from beneath the cloaks of pretended citizens. The instant the orator Mokranoffsky rose to address the people, red coats emerged from dingy vestments, like butterflies out of grubs. Not a soldier had been admitted into the body of the assembly; but now, when the patriots rose to address the civilians, civilians were nowhere to be seen, and the rooms were thronged with sol-

diers! Mokranoffsky, finding himself surrounded by armed men, and seeing that resistance was useless, bared his breast to his assailants, exclaiming in a voice which even the invaders respected, "If you must have a victim, I stand before you. At least I shall die a free Pole!"

The first sittings of the Diet were thus little better than a succession of brawls. But these unpropitious demonstrations by no means deterred the Czarina from carrying out her intentions. In vain the courtiers by whom she was surrounded represented to her that Poniatowsky was the grandson of a small farmer. "If he were himself a farm-labourer," cried the Empress, "I will have him King; and King he shall be!" In the meantime, fresh armies had been sent to Poland. The whole country was in the power of Russian soldiers. The Ambassador, with a body-guard of some thousands of armed Cossacks, lorded it over Warsaw. Several of the principal nuncios protested against the interference of strangers. Count Branicky assembled the troops, of which, as Crown General, he was Commander; and, in company with Prince Radzivil, prepared to maintain the right of free election by force of arms. Poles and Russians at length met in a pitched battle. But, although the former fought with all the determined bravery of patriots and desperate men, they were signally defeated; and Branicky and Radzivil, together with the beautiful wife and sister of the latter (who, with the true national spirit, had placed themselves in the front of danger in order to encourage the soldiers) were compelled to fly the country.

When peace had been in part restored, the Diet again assembled. On this, as on most important occasions, the meeting was held in an open field, at the distance of about a league from the capital, and was opened by a sermon, of which the text was "Look even out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house."—2nd Kings, x., 3. The Primate, having mounted the rostrum, demanded in a solemn manner whom they would have for King? A great cry burst from the assembled people; and one word, "PONIATOWSKY," decided the fate of Poland.

On the following day (Sept. 7th, 1765) the new King was formally proclaimed under the name of Stanislaus Augustus. This announcement was received by the people with the most boisterous demonstrations of joy. Never was a King welcomed to his throne with more enthusiasm than this same Poniatowski, who, a few days before, had been declared an enemy of Poland.

It might have been imagined, after the Russian Cabinet and the Polish Diet had come to an understanding, that all cause for Russian interference in Polish affairs would have been removed. This, however, was not the case. Like the Old Man of the Mountains, whose adventures are detailed in the "Arabian Nights," the Empress clung to the neck of the miserable Poniatowsky; who, imagining in his simplicity, that her favours were marks of particular friendship and esteem, was gradually sinking deeper and deeper into the slough of difficulty and danger. One occasion for interference which Catherine eagerly embraced was a long-pending dispute between the religious factions of the state. The Catholics had succeeded, after "a hot war of words," in causing the Dissidents to be expelled from the Diet; whereupon the Protestants applied to Russia for protection. The Empress gave the required aid—first in secret, but afterwards openly; at the same time fanning the displeasure of the disputants in every possible manner.

The Bishop of Cracow, a haughty bigot, loudly protested against these proceedings. The Bishop of Milna, and most of the prelates followed in his steps, and moved for new and stricter measures against the Dissenters. The King, favouring more moderate views, was openly insulted by the fanatical Bishop of Kieff, who in a fit of passion delivered himself of the following unclerical and ungentelemanly speech: "I used formerly to pray to God for your prosperity; my prayer now is that he may send you to the Devil!" This man had already, on a previous occasion, gone so far as to assert "that the King ought to be hanged; and that there were still some men left who were charitable enough to do the nation that service." What a deplorable state the country must have been in, when a subject could thus insult his sovereign, and escape unpunished! In subsequent sittings of the Diet, the frightful laws against the Dissenters, framed by the Romish priests, were ratified. The Dissenters again appealed to the Empress for protection. Thereupon Prince Repuin arrived at Warsaw at the head of a large army, to demand in the name of the Czarina, "not only toleration on behalf of the Dissenters, but a complete equality between them and the Catholics." This demand was met with a furious refusal. The Russians had recourse to arms, and civil war broke out in all its horror. Stanislaus Augustus, fearing that he had incurred the displeasure of the Empress, and desirous of restoring himself to favour, convoked a Diet extraordinary, for the purpose of deliberating on conciliatory measures. But the Bishop of Cracow, the Bishop of Kieff, and others, refused to pay the slightest attention to the orders of the King. On the evening of that day the delinquents were privately arrested by the Russian agents, and sent with their adherents to Siberia. Prince Repuin, in extenuation of this outrage on the liberties of Poland, addressed the Diet in a manifesto which began as follows:—"The troops of her Imperial Majesty, my Sovereign—friends and allies of the Confederated Republic—have arrested the Bishop of Cracow, the Bishop of Kieff, and others, for having failed in the respect that is due to the dignity of her Imperial Majesty, by questioning the purity of her salary, disinterested, and amicable intentions in favour of the Republic." &c. This explanation satisfied the King, but was not satisfactory to the Diet, who demanded that the Bishops should be immediately set at liberty. The King, interceding for his people with the Prince, had the mortification to be "snubbed" by that functionary. Once having humbled the King, it was no very difficult matter to humble the Diet. The national archives fell into the hands of the Russian diplomatist; who, at the same time that he was restoring the old laws and inventing new ones for the protection of the Dissidents, managed to let slip unseen into the Code certain clauses of a tendency to overthrow the Constitution, and lay it open to the assaults of the Empress. Stanislaus Augustus was now only a King in name: abandoned by Russia, and mistrusted by his own people, his palace had, within a few months, been converted from a court to a prison. Count Orloff hated Stanislaus, on account of his having once been his rival in the affections of the Empress. He took good care that his resentment should be made known to Prince Repuin, who vented his spite upon the poor King whenever an opportunity presented itself, either in public or in private. The following anecdote, related by Mr. Tooke in his valuable "History of the Reign of Catherine II.," will serve to show to what a degree of subservience the weak Sovereign was reduced:—"One evening," says Mr. Tooke, "when the King was at the theatre, the Russian Ambassador was late before he came. The performers were in the second act, when a bustle being heard in the Ambassador's box, the King sent to inquire what was the matter. Answer was brought that Prince Repuin was come, and was surprised they had not waited for him. The King ordered the curtain to be dropped, and the piece to begin again."

An apparent calm reigned over Europe; Catherine, like a great actress, studying her part in a fearful tragedy, while the rest of the house was wrapped in slumber, meditating amidst the universal silence the most atrocious acts. But the French Minister, the Duke de Choiseul, perceiving that there was mischief brewing for Poland, requested the Sultan of Turkey, who had himself received wrongs at the hands of the Empress, to stand forth and defend the rightful cause. His representations had the desired effect. The Sultan at once took part with the Poles, and by his noble conduct averted for a time the blow that was to crush at once the freedom and the nationality of a great and independent people. Catherine, it appears, did not regret his interference. Her Polish plots were not quite matured, and a victory over the Ottomans would, she felt, so magnify her authority in Europe, that no power would then venture to question her right to incorporate in her dominions a country already overrun by her armies and governed by her Ministers. In the meantime affairs in Poland were hurrying to the climax. All the promises which the Empress had made to the deluded Poles were ruthlessly cast aside. Fresh armies kept pouring into the country, slaughtering and burning wherever resistance was offered. The State papers, passing through the hands of the Russian Minister, had become polluted with barbarous laws. Clauses enjoining submission to Russia, and threatening severe punishment to such as infringed the Empress's commands, striking as they did at the very root of the great tree of freedom, caused the whole framework of Polish independence to totter to its base. The people revolted. The dying sparks of patriotism blazed up. The confederated patriots drove the Russians from the city of Cracow, and assembled in the fortress of Bar (which afterwards gave name to the Confederation), to concert further measures against the invaders. But disaster followed them to the battle-field. The Russians were victorious in almost every skirmish in which they were engaged.

Catherine now began to negotiate with the crowned heads whom she had chosen to be her partners in the spoil she was about to divide. The King of Prussia had long been privy to her cause, and both potentates looked towards Austria for that support which alone would ensure the success of their schemes. So great a fear had Frederick of arousing the suspicions of some wary diplomatist, that he did not venture even to confer personally with the Empress, but sent his son Prince Henry to speak for him. So conscious, too, was the King of the dishonesty of his conduct, that he did not even dare to let it be known that his son was going to St. Petersburg. He pretended that he was going to Sweden to see his aunt; but had secret orders to return quickly by way of Denmark, in order that the Empress, who had been informed of the manoeuvre, might invite him to St. Petersburg. In the private conferences which took place between the Empress and Prince Henry the dismemberment and partition of Poland were resolved on. "Catherine and Frederick," says Mr. Tooke, "were equally desirous of undertaking this dismemberment, but they could not do it without a third ally. If Marie-Therese had been the sole mistress of the Empire, they would not, perhaps, have succeeded in making Austria a sharer in so unjust a spoliation." As far as Joseph II. was concerned there could be no difficulty. The care of treating with him was left to Frederick; and, filled with hopes held out by that Sovereign, Catherine proceeded trustfully on her mighty project.

In the meanwhile the Russian troops had routed the confederates of Bar, massacring many in cold blood and seizing others. The property of several of the richest nobles was confiscated for the benefit of the Russian treasury. Catherine herself was not too proud to accept the library of the patriot Radzivil, although she declared to Europe that her only desire was to watch over the individual interest of every true Pole, and to befriend in every possible manner the distracted nation which she had taken under her protection. The Poles, imagining their King to be secretly in alliance with the Empress, threw off his authority, and chose for leader a nobleman named Pulaufsky. That General's first measure was to obtain possession of the King's person. For this purpose he entered into a league with three other noblemen. The four conspirators, together with forty Dragoons, disguised as peasants, entered Warsaw by different routes for the purpose of carrying out their project. The King, on returning from supper at a relative's house, suddenly found himself surrounded by men in masks. He received violent blows on the head, and having been lifted on a horse was carried in a state of insensibility to a forest at the distance of about a league from Warsaw. Voices of Russian patrols caused the conspirators to take flight; leaving the King, who had recovered his consciousness, to grope his way in the dark. That night the King's hat was found smeared with blood; and the people rose to avenge his death. But on the following day the King himself was found, and crowds who had before abused and denounced him gave way to the most extravagant demonstrations of joy. This little incident was of a nature to disturb the self-complacency of Catherine, who had been in hopes that the Poles had by this time become disgusted with their King.

At length, in the middle of the year 1772, the Empress saw herself on the point of reaping the fruits of all her intrigues; the treaty of the Neustadt had engaged the courts of Berlin and Vienna to stand by her in her attempt on Poland, and all the rest of Europe were in a state of utter ignorance as to her intentions. Joseph II., on pretence of giving his assistance to the confederates of Bar, marched his armies into Poland. The armies of Russia and Prussia had also respectively advanced upon the northern and southern provinces. Baron Stackelberg, the Russian Minister, thereupon, in the name of the allies, drew up a manifesto to the Polish King and Diet, of which the following is an extract:—

In the midst of that promising state of affairs which was secured by the accession of Stanislaus Augustus to the Polish throne, the spirit of discord seized upon the nation. Citizen armed against citizen; and laws, order, public safety, justice, police, commerce, and agriculture—all are either gone to ruin or are on the brink of destruction. . . . Her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, her Majesty the Empress Dowager Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, find themselves under the necessity of taking a decisive part in circumstances so critical; and their said Majesties have determined among themselves, without loss of time, and with one accord, to take the most effectual measures to re-establish tranquillity and good order in Poland. . . . As they have respectively very considerable claims on the possessions of the republic, which they cannot permit themselves to expose to the hazard of possible contingencies, they have determined among themselves to assert their lawful claims, which each of them will be ready to justify. . . . Her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, her Majesty the Empress Dowager Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, having communicated reciprocally their respective rights and claims, and being mutually convinced of the justice thereof, are determined to secure to themselves a proportionate equivalent by taking immediate and effectual possession of such part of the republic as may serve to fix more natural and sure bounds between her and the three Powers.

This impertinent manifesto was followed by others no less insulting. That of the Court of Vienna, after having informed the republic of the fact of the election of a Governor for that part of Poland occupied by the Austrian troops, exhorted the people to pay implicit obedience to that functionary. The appointment of a day for the taking of the oath of allegiance was referred to; and the people were, in the meanwhile, recommended to behave just the same towards their new Sovereign as if that solemnity had already taken place.

The Empress of Russia, on her part, drew up a manifesto of a similar tendency, but more outrageous. She promised the inhabitants of Russian Poland the free exercise of their religion and laws, and magnanimously ordered them the same privileges as those which were accorded to her own children (Catherine was pleased to style herself the Great Mother of Russia); desiring in return merely the love of her subjects and their strict obedience to each and all of her injunctions. The people were likewise informed that the solemnity of oath-taking would be held in a month from the date of the manifesto. This precious document winds up with a eulogium on the virtues of the Empress, and an injunction that prayers be offered up in all the churches for herself and the Grand Duke.

The King of Prussia's manifesto was perhaps the most audacious of all. It opened by informing the inhabitants of Prussian Poland "that in the early ages a certain Polish King did unlawfully and violently dispossess the Duke of Pomerania, of a portion of his dominions called Pommalia, together with a large district in New Mark; that the Dukes of Stettin were the lawful and natural heirs of the Dukes of Pommalia; that the latter line being extinguished so early as the year 1295, their territories fell into the hands of the knights of the Teutonic order, from whom they passed into the hands of the kings of Poland; that the House of Stettin was thereby deprived of its rights, and prevented ever after from recovering them; and finally that the House of Brandenburg are the heirs and universal successors of the aforesaid Dukes."

But the three Great Marauding Powers not satisfied with having gained possession of the several Polish provinces which fell to their share, desired to gain for so unjust an annexation the compliances of the Polish King and people. For this purpose a Diet extraordinary was convoked at Warsaw by the Allies, which was to acknowledge to the world the justice of the late nefarious proceedings.

The Poles revolted at the thought of performing so horrible a duty. But the armies which ravaged their country drove them to the place of meeting at the point of the bayonet. Rumours were likewise spread about, by way of caution, that unless the Diet obeyed the mandates of the Three Sovereigns, their capital would be put to the flames. By means of this and similar threats, the consent of the Diet was at length obtained, and the Polish nation published to the world that avowal (extorted on the rack) which for ever swept away the boundary lines of their most ill-used country. Several of the more noble among the Poles, heart-sick at so mournful an occurrence, hastened to the Chamber where the King sat, and demanded, in the name of God, what he had done with the country which had been entrusted to him? The King, in his paroxysm of grief and bewilderment, rose from his seat, and, dashing his hat upon the ground, replied, "Gentlemen, I am weary of hearkening to you. The partition of our unhappy country is a consequence of your ambition, of your dissensions, and of your wrangling. It is to yourselves alone that you ought to attribute your misfortunes. As for me, if no more territory should be allowed to me than could be covered by this hat, I should still, in the eyes of Europe, be your lawful, though most unhappy, king!"

By this first partition Poland lost nearly 5,000,000 inhabitants—of which Russia acquired 1,500,000, Austria 2,005,000, and Prussia 800,000. The country usurped by Russia had for its limits the river Wella, from its source to its junction with the Niemen and the Berezina as far as Njesieka, where it empties itself into the Dnieper. Austria took possession of the whole of the left bank of the Vistula, from the salt mines to the mouth of Viotz, the Palatinate of Belch, and the greater part of Volhynia; and Prussia, of Ebbing, and the whole of that extensive district formerly known by the name of Polish Prussia.

Such is a brief sketch of the spoliation and first partition of Poland. On a future occasion we shall endeavour to present our readers with an account of the final and still more atrocious partition of that now extinct nation, whose strange destiny has excited, and still continues to excite so much controversy in all civilised countries.



VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR  
AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

(Continued from page 409.)

Syrie," burst forth from the bands with which each vessel was provided. The sun shone brightly at 10 a.m., when the squadron left Calais, and everything promised a short and successful cruise; but even in twenty miles of Channel navigation, taking place in an early summer day, there are mishaps and obstacles to which Imperial power must succumb. England has, besides her wooden walls, no stancher defenders than her impenetrable fogs, and one of the densest of these atmospheric protectors descended upon the water just as the squadron approached the English shore, as to give a gentle hint of the perils which a hostile invader of her shores must expect to meet with. The squadron was scattered like the fleet of Æneas, but our English Palinurus was at his post, and slowly and with the greatest care brought his precious charge safely into Dover. The voyage was, however, not without its "hair-breadth 'scapes," among which must be reckoned foremost a narrow chance of getting on shore at the North Foreland. However, the Imperial yacht at about one o'clock arrived safely at her destination. On sighting the Admiralty-pier, which was not until the *Pelican* was exceedingly close to the shore, the spectacle that met the eyes of the Emperor and Empress must have been exceedingly gratifying to both. We could not show them the immense military strength which oppressively pervades everything in France; but we could exhibit thousands upon thousands of happy and well-dressed people densely thronging every approach to the pier, and those who had tickets filling the temporary pier gallery which had been erected for their accommodation. We had, however, a very respectable guard ready, consisting of the Royal Bucks Militia, who had been under arms from an early hour in the morning, and looked exceedingly grave and contemplative in their novel but honourable position. Mr. Payne, the Mayor of Dover, was on the platform, attended by his stout burgesses; and, in another quarter, a brilliant group was formed by Prince Albert, Lord Alfred Paget, the French Ambassador, and her Excellency Countess Walewska. The patience of this distinguished party was most severely tried by a waiting period of an hour and a half, during which Madame Walewska presided with true French grace over a sort of miniature Court; her temporary throne being a camp stool, which some obliging cavalier had provided for her accommodation. Prince Albert curiously examined the militia shakoes, which are a humanised modification of his own celebrated pattern; and occasionally gave an expressive shrug, that might be translated either into a wish that the visitors had arrived, or that the illustrious waiter upon wind and weather had been thoughtful enough to bring a great-coat to shield his gorgeous uniform from the spray with which an eastern breeze was ceaselessly sprinkling the pier. The "White Cliffs of Albion" looked exceedingly brown and shadowy, indicating pretty clearly that the poet had not made his celebrated apostrophe on a day similar to that chosen for the Imperial visit; the ship guns sounded with a muffled report through the fog; and the dismal fog-bells brought to the lady spectators unpleasant reminiscences of rough passages and seasickness. Time and tide wait, it is said, for no man; but man, however great, must wait for time and tide; so our illustrious Prince Consort had nothing for it but to wait patiently, and reflect approvingly on the eloquent and appropriate address which the Mayor and Corporation had presented to his Royal Highness in the early morning. But

Time and the hour sees out the longest day.

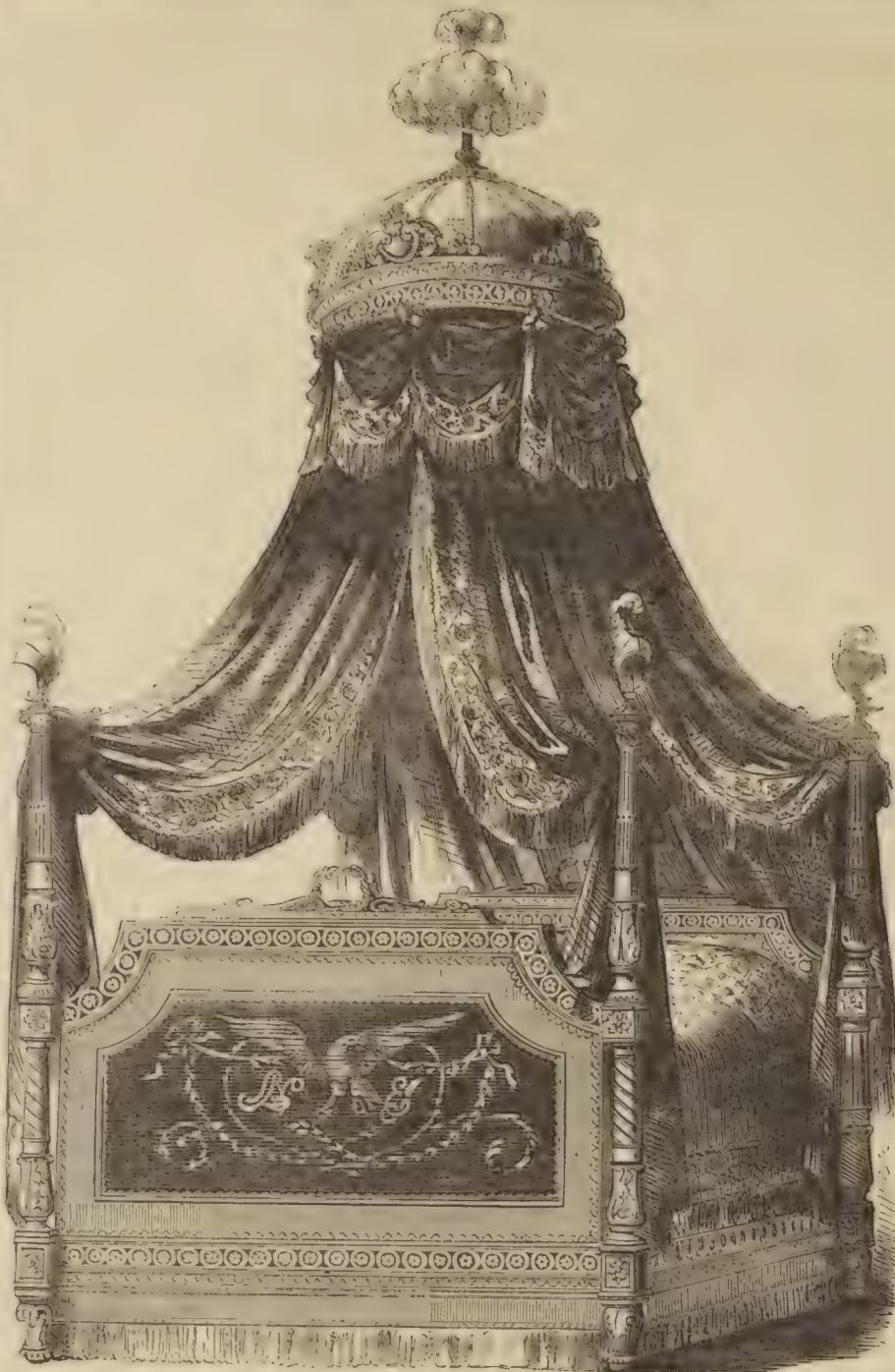
Patience had at length its reward; and the Imperial steamer, *Pelican*, loomed spectrally in the offing. The Imperial eagle spread over the quarter, the Royal and Imperial standards at the mast-heads, and the brilliant uniforms on deck, soon told that she bore the long-expected visitors; and a shout of welcome was raised all along the pier, was taken up in the harbour, and was re-echoed from the cliff, which must soon have set the Emperor's mind at ease as to the character of his reception on

English ground. As the vessel neared the shore his Imperial Majesty could easily be distinguished, wearing the uniform of a General of Division, and the grand cordon of the Legion of Honour; and beside him stood the Empress, who was in truth an object of the most intense interest to the thousands, male and female, who lined the shore, impatient to bid her a cordial welcome. Her Majesty was most simply attired in a *chapeau*

*de paille*, a grey paletôt, and—rejoice Caledonia—a tartan dress, of a quiet and unobtrusive pattern. We soon saw that the published prints did her Majesty no more than justice—the likeness being most striking, while the grace with which she acknowledged the repeated cheers from the shore completed the pleasing character of the first impression. Behind the Emperor and Empress stood Marshal Vaillant and about a dozen French officers, in brilliant uniforms; and on the paddle-box might be recognised Admiral the Viscomte de Chabannes, whose excellent English speech had made such a favourable impression at the Lord Mayor's Easter dinner. The Viscomte had the honour of commanding the Imperial yacht on this particular occasion, assisted by Captain Smithett, whose efficient pilotage was rewarded in the sequel by an extraordinary mark of Imperial approbation. The light and graceful vessel was soon alongside the steps, the decorated gangway was run out, the cheering reached its climax, and in another moment Prince Albert might be seen handing the Empress on shore, with the combined dignity and grace of which his Royal Highness is so perfect an example. The Emperor followed alone—etiquette, it is presumed, preventing his Imperial Majesty offering his arm to the Countess Walewska, who was most graciously recognised by the Empress at the landing-place. The *dames d'honneur* followed, then the English and French Court functionaries; the whole party proceeding slowly, amid the most deafening cheers, to the Lord Warden Hotel, which had been previously magnificently decorated for this important event. Here a well-dressed crowd besieged the various entrances, but watch and ward was strictly kept, and the illustrious visitors ascended without obstruction to the splendid apartments which had been prepared for their reception. A select few were admitted to the vestibule, amongst whom might be seen the great humourist, Mr. Thackeray, who, on being recognised peeping modestly through the glass-door, was at once invited to enter. As the Imperial party passed upstairs, the Empress seemed pale, as if from recent indisposition; but the Emperor appeared to be in the best health, and was most courteous and affable to everyone who approached him. Luncheon was obviously the next business; and one had been prepared of which the guests partook with great relish and satisfaction.

While the Royal and Imperial party were thus refreshing themselves above stairs, the ladies and gentlemen of the two Courts were similarly employed below; but the time so occupied was very short, as in a very few minutes it was announced that the Emperor would receive the Corporation address. For this purpose the large coffee-room was again called into requisition, and was soon filled with the Mayor, Town-council, and half-a-dozen other gentlemen, who, for great occasions like this, may be considered as honorary members of all the corporations of the United Kingdom. The Emperor stood on the dais, at the upper end of the room, and beside him stood the Empress, in her tartan dress; but, for the grey paletôt a magnificent visite of black lace had been substituted. A nearer view only confirmed the favourable impression made by her Majesty's appearance on board ship. Her stature is commanding, her figure fine and graceful, and her features quite of an Imperial style of beauty; a slightly pensive expression agreeably softens their marked Roman contour, and her Majesty's demeanour is entirely self-possessed and queenly. The Empress listened with marked attention to the address, recognised at once the complimentary allusions to herself, and exhibited throughout a lively emotion, and an evident appreciation of the solemnity and interest of the occasion. The Emperor also, ordinarily so impassive, was strongly moved, as might be detected by the nervous play of the nostril; and there was a tone of manly sincerity and friendship in his few words of reply which could at once be distinguished from the ordinary expressionless blandness of Royal responses. Every one in the room felt this; and even the august presence in which we all stood did not prevent a frequent and most emphatic "hear" at points in his Majesty's reply. As in the case of Prince Albert's address, the duty of reading the second document

(Continued on page 395.)



THE IMPERIAL STATE BED AT WINDSOR CASTLE.



THE VISIT TO THE OPERA.





THE INVESTITURE OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH WITH THE ORDER OF THE GARTER, AT WINDSOR CASTLE.



## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The safe return of the Emperor and Empress to Paris is a source of considerable relief to the pessimists, who were resolved to see in the visit to England a crowd of fantastic dangers, proceeding from the most improbable causes. All is now excitement in anticipation of the Queen's arrival, an event looked forward to with great interest and curiosity.

*Il faut souffrir pour être beau* is an adage Paris is now exemplifying the truth of. An order has gone forth that, to appear beautiful to the eyes of her Majesty and of assembled Europe, Paris is to have her face washed, painted, and otherwise adorned. Accordingly, woe to the passers-by! You sally forth on your own side of the street; your next neighbour's house is being scraped, whitewashed, and plastered; and an *ouvrier* or small boy, in a lime-besprinkled blouse, warns you off the *trottoir* with a wave of his lath. You cross the street, and find your opposite neighbour's house is undergoing the same operation; and so on through every street to the place of your destination, where you arrive more or less dotted with paint and plaster, more or less blind with lime and dust, and considerably agitated from the various narrow escapes from being run over in your traversings, and the subsequent course you have been compelled to adopt, of walking in the middle of the street among the carriages. When the evil arrives at your own house, in addition to the service of danger and dirt you undergo in each outgoing and incoming, you know that, when your next quarter's rent comes due, your *propriétaire* will have added something to the already vastly increased sum you pay, to indemnify him for the misery you have endured.

The fact of the departure of the travelling and campaign furniture of the Emperor seems to put a stop to all doubts on the subject of the proposed expedition to the Crimea. His tent, with all the necessary accessories, has been dispatched under the care of a certain number of the most skilful *tapissiers* attached to the *garde meuble*, by the Lyons Railroad.

Most sincere regret has been felt in Paris by the series of misfortunes that has visited the family of M. Ducos, late Minister of Marine. Seized himself with the frightful malady which within the last two months has here made so many victims, putrid sore throat—coming in his case, in addition to inflammation of the veins—he soon expired; and was, within a few days followed by his twin children of two years old, both attacked by the same disease, which, in most of the instances where it has appeared, has proved fatal, and, being highly contagious, has seldom been content with one victim, in the houses where it finds entrance. The bodies of M. Ducos and of the second child have been embalmed, and are deposited, with that of the first, in the vaults of the Madeleine, there to remain till the funeral ceremony, after which they are to be conveyed to Bordeaux, to be interred in the family cemetery.

Fate seems to be really unsparring for the navy just at present; Admiral Mackau, and Vice-Admirals Cazy and Dupetit-Thouars, having all been visited with painful and alarming illnesses. It has been remarked also of late that apoplexy and madness have acquired a most distressing frequency: a sudden and fatal case of the former has just occurred in the person of Mlle. Boudet, daughter of the Councillor of State, at the age of nineteen.

It is reported that the Generals Canrobert and Pelissier are shortly to be named Marshals; and that one of them is, on this occasion, to return to France. At the same time, adds the rumour, General Rolin, Adjutant-General of the Palace, is to receive a command in the Crimea.

The strictest orders have been issued at the Palais d'Industrie and of the Beaux-Arts that none but the exhibitors are to be permitted to enter. Various details, however, descriptive of the mysterious splendours collected therein have transpired, especially with respect to the latter temple.

The life-size portrait of the Empress, surrounded by her *dames d'honneur*, by Winterhalter, is not yet quite completed; but is, nevertheless, to take the place kept open for it in the Exhibition. M. Ingres exhibits twenty pictures painted at various periods, M. Gudin as many as sixty, and other well-known painters a proportionate number—many of these having been already exhibited elsewhere. This is all very well for the established reputations, but what space remains for those whose reputations only want the occasion to be established? Great dissatisfaction is, as may be supposed, created by these arrangements, and many highly meritorious works have, of necessity, been excluded, in order to carry them out.

The new addition to the Palais des Beaux-Arts, in the Avenue Montaigne, is nearly completed. It is destined to contain the tapestries of Gobelin and Beauvais, the Sevres china, and a Chinese museum.

We learn, with a satisfaction which we doubt not our readers will join in, that M. Billault, Minister of the Interior, has refused the authorisation for the proposed establishment of bull-fights during the period of the Exhibition, on the ground of its being opposed to the feelings and morals of the French nation.

On the 30th instant is to be performed, at the church of St. Eustache, a magnificent musical ceremony, in honour of the inauguration of the Palais d'Industrie. This is a grand "Te Deum" by Hector Berlioz, directed by himself, with three choirs, orchestra, and organ, and *nine hundred and fifty* performers. Our English organist, Henry Smart, has come from London expressly to join this solemnity, and will, after the "Te Deum," execute various pieces of Handel, on a new organ by M. Ducroquet. At the end of the ceremony, to a grand march, composed by Berlioz, there will be presented at the altar the colours of the various nations, which will be blessed by the Curé of St. Eustache, and twenty ladies of different countries will collect from the visitors a sum destined to go to the benevolent institutions of the third arrondissement.

The Imperial Society of Horticulture is preparing an unusually magnificent exhibition, in the square of the Champs Elysées, behind the Elysée Napoleon. A Swiss chalet, a rustic cottage, a variety of fountains, aviaries, &c., will be added to the habitual attractions of plants and flowers in this fairy garden; where four greenhouses will contain the rarest and most delicate tropical plants, and nine tents the productions of more temperate climates. A handsome iron gate, in the style of the sixteenth century, will give entrance from the grand avenue of the Champs Elysées.

## THE BALTIC FLEET.

On the 22nd inst. the fleet, that had arrived at Kiel on the 19th, was still lying quietly in the harbour, the vessels occupying the same position as they took up on first entering. On the 20th Admirals Dundas and Seymour went ashore to pay their respects to General Von Krogh, the military commander of the place, which attention was returned by the latter two days afterwards. At daybreak of the 21st the *Bulldog* left for Copenhagen, but without taking Admiral Dundas, who, it had been expected by many, on board the fleet, would have gone up to Copenhagen to wait upon the King of Denmark, as Admiral Napier had done. The *Impregnable* and *Invincible*, on leaving Kiel lately, steered direct into the Baltic, and were followed afterwards by the smaller craft, *Arrigost*, *Amphion*, *Cassiope*, *Palinurus*, &c. A flotilla of sixteen steamers, supposed to be the above advanced squadron, under Admiral Watson, was seen off Stolpmünde, on the Pomeranian coast, on the evening of the 15th instant, 24 miles out at sea. It seems understood that these sixteen steam frigates and corvettes are to enforce the blockade as long as the ice abounds in the Bay of Finland; and that, subsequently, they will be reinforced by vessels of the line, and will then have each a distinct beat assigned to them.

Private letters from Courland mention that, at the first news of the re-entrance of the English fleet into the Baltic, all vessels had been withdrawn from the unfortified harbours. Libau, which is supported solely by its trade as a forwarding port, which must now entirely cease, will suffer more than most other places. The concentration of troops in Courland, Lapland, and Esthland continues the garrisons of Revel, Narva, and Riga are receiving considerable reinforcements.

## THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

In our last publication we were only able to give the telegraphic report that the bombardment had begun. Since then letters have arrived which give a number of interesting details regarding the progress of the operations for the first few days.

On the day previous to the commencement of the bombardment, which was Easter Sunday, the Protestant and Roman Catholic services of the army chaplains in the English Camp were most numerously attended. In the French Camp, also, the duties of religion were attended to in the morning; after which, with both French and English, the usual labours of a besieging force went forward, as on other days. An immense quantity of shot and shell was sent up, with one 13-inch mortar and one 84-pounder, both for the batteries on the right attack.

In the afternoon a message was sent down to the Sailors' Camp to tell off the men to their guns, and have everything in readiness to begin the final attack at daybreak. It was represented that one of the Sailors' Batteries still wanted three or four guns; but, in return to this statement, Lord Raglan replied that it was of no consequence, and that the batteries must all be ready to open next morning. At a late hour the troops detached to guard the trenches were ordered to take their rations cooked with them, to save the exposure which would otherwise be incurred by men carrying them in the daytime. The ambulance-cars were also ordered to wait for wounded in the several ravines; and an order was sent down to Malakoff for 600 stretchers for wounded, which, with 200 extra tents for emergencies, were forwarded per rail.

Throughout the night there was very little firing on either side. Beyond an occasional gun to keep up the appearance of war, and take away the slight sense of security which sometimes exists in the trenches, all was quiet. All in the Allied Camps knew that the bombardment would commence at daybreak, and so all were full of regrets and forebodings over the change in the weather. It had, indeed, changed in a manner sufficiently severe to excite anxiety, if not mistrust, as to the result of the first day's operation. The wind blew a regular gale; the night was at once dark and misty, while the rain fell in such floods as almost to surpass every sound. Towards morning it was, if possible, still more unfavourable; and, in spite of the rain, the wind was sufficiently strong to leave in all but faint hopes that the fleet would be able to share in the struggle of the day. At four o'clock a.m. all the officers who had leave were on the alert, looking up waterproofs and forgotten mufflers before setting out for Cathcart's-hill, to see our opening fire. At this hour nearly all, except the sentries, were asleep, nor was there anything whatever to denote that one of the most bloody struggles that ever disturbed the world, or defaced the annals of civilisation, was about to commence. A heavy mist hung over the sea, and partly over Sebastopol, while both were obscured, every now and then, by the clouds of rain which were driven before the wind. The north side was almost completely invisible, though the mouth of the harbour was clear, and a heavy sea running in broke in a wild line of breakers over the sunken ships. In Sebastopol itself everything was quiet and clean as usual. Where the head of the harbour could be seen two or three large boats seemed crossing it near the land, but no other signs of activity were visible, either in the water or in the town. It was now five o'clock; none of the clocks in Sebastopol could be heard to strike, as the wind was very strong and blowing up the harbour and across the town. Each moment the weather became thicker and more wet, so that in a few minutes hardly any of the town was visible. The grim line of batteries, however, remained well in view, though they also seemed as quiet as inside the walls. In the Malakoff a few soldiers could occasionally be distinguished in the embrasures, and a small party crossed now and then between it and the Mamelon, but this was all.

Suddenly, at a quarter-past five o'clock a.m., a gun was fired from our right attack. In a second afterwards, running up and down the line—from the little mounds and hillocks near Inkerman—from the broad commanding positions of Green-hill and Gordon's Batteries—from quiet picturesque ravines, where no one dreamt of guns lurking—high from the rear on steep and lofty ridges, and away down to the left where the French works stretch out—over low marsh lands to Kamiesch—from every point of our lines came a hundred streaks of flame and masses of smoke. For a minute after there was silence, and then the great concussion came rumbling on, slowly mastering both wind and rain, and swelling into a roar that seemed to shake both heaven and earth. The shells and bullets of the first discharge made of themselves a perfect uproar, as they fell like an iron hail full upon the enemy's batteries. Some shot were short, and went bounding towards the works, scattering the earth like water. Some were too high, and passed clear over everything into the town; but the great mass were well aimed and true, and passed full into the embrasures, clearing all before them. The shells burst everywhere about like crackers, and the stunning explosion of the great mortars made themselves conspicuous over every other noise, as the huge bombs screamed through the air, carrying death and destruction into the Mamelon and Malakoff. After this first tremendous volley each gun worked as it could, and a regular file fire of mortars and heavy guns commenced upon the place. The enemy appeared completely surprised. With the first awful salvo a general confusion was observed in their batteries. For three or four minutes not a gun replied—then the Mamelon fired three or four at once, and the Redan and Malakoff also began a slow irregular cannonade. The Flagstaff Battery was also quick in sending two or three shells, but the great mass of the guns in all the Russian works were silent. Gradually, after a lapse of five or ten minutes, their fire extended; but, before half their ordnance was manned, ours had fired a dozen rounds, so that some of the enemy's guns were struck before they fired a shot, and past all manning. It was nearly six o'clock before all their works were in full play, and then each battery, pelted against its assailant, fell to business in earnest. Our mortar batteries in the advanced works and in front of the picket-house, with the new French batteries towards Inkerman, appeared to concentrate their fire upon the works round the Malakoff Tower and the Mamelon. Some of the French Inkerman works also fired heavily into the harbour and dockyard buildings. The right flank of Gordon's Battery was also directed against the Mamelon. This was on our right. The centre and left face of Gordon's Battery engaged the Redan—assisted by the new 68-pounder battery, on its left, the mortars in the advanced works, and the right fire of the Green-hill Mound which engaged the Garden Battery. This was our centre. The centre and left faces of Green-hill opened upon the barrack work, supported by a Sailors' Battery of heavy guns, and one side of the French right attack. The other side of the French work fought closely with some new batteries which the enemy have lately thrown up between and in advance of the Barrack and Flagstaff works. The French centre was close, quite close, to the Flagstaff Battery, and their left engaged the Quarantine and Mud Forts.

About six p.m. the weather partially cleared, but the rain still fell in torrents. The advantage of the day's cannonade most decidedly remained with the Allies. The Mamelon was almost entirely silenced, and the Garden Battery quite so. The Malakoff appeared to have suffered much. Even the few stones which remained of its round tower were quite swept away, the earthwork much injured, and many of its guns silenced. The new Russian works north of the Mamelon seemed uninjured, as did also the Allied batteries opposed to them. The Redan seemed injured, though by no means in a way which lessened its resistance. The fire from this tremendous work still continued as hot as it had been in the morning. The French battery opposed to the Barrack was injured, as was also that opposed to the Flagstaff. Neither of these great Russian works appeared much hurt. On the extreme left the French were said to have done much damage to the right of the Flagstaff, and also to have half destroyed the Quarantine and Mud Forts.

The fire of the Allied siege guns gradually ceased as night came on. The mortars, however, did not cease firing; all of them were ordered to maintain the bombardment by firing a shell every ten minutes throughout the night.

The bombardment continued without intermission throughout the night, and the enemy were consequently prevented repairing their damages. The practice of our mortars was perfect. Not a second passed without a 13-inch shell being thrown into the Malakoff and Mamelon. At the close of Monday evening's fire the Malakoff was almost completely silenced; and next morning it replied to our cannonade with only two guns, which were dismantled at eight. For several hours after it did not fire a shot; indeed the Russian fire along the whole of their lines was much slackened. At about four o'clock, however, all the enemy's lines and batteries suddenly sprung into life and vigour. Volleys of from 100 to 150 guns were fired at once from the Redan, the Flagstaff, Barrack, Garden, and Malakoff Batteries; even the Mamelon, which all thought destroyed and untenable, fired five or six guns in rapid succession. Their shot came in upon our works like hail. On every point along our line balls were to be seen bounding and plunging, and shells bursting like fireworks in the air. Never, perhaps, was such a concentrated and destructive cannonade witnessed since the commencement of the siege. All felt that, if it continued two or three hours, our works would be levelled with the dust; as, though both English and French kept up a terrific fire, the enemy, in spite of our utmost efforts, gave five guns in reply to our one. The rapidity and deafening uproar of the fire brought all who were

at leisure to the front; and the oldest and most experienced artillery officers augured very unfavourably of our prospect of taking a fortress which could command such a fierce cannonade. Suddenly, and in the midst of such remarks, the enemy's batteries made a dead pause. For nearly a quarter of an hour not a gun was fired. The Allies kept up their bombardment; the French battered the Flagstaff and works to the left. Our shot ploughed into the Redan and Malakoff, and our 13-inch shells burst in regular succession in the centre of the Mamelon; but not five guns did the Russians give in reply. Nearly twenty minutes passed on their side in this state of unaccountable inactivity, when again suddenly the Redan and Flagstaff broke out in heavy volleys, and maintained them for some time. Our long guns ceased firing a little after seven, the enemy's about eight, and then both Russians and Allies resorted to their mortars. The fire of these latter was maintained all night. Every five minutes one of our 13-inch shells was dropped into the Mamelon; and, from the advanced work, at the same intervals, 10-inch were thrown into the Malakoff. The French directed their bombs into the Flagstaff, and our left attack threw them into the Redan. On the extreme left of all the French rocket battery sent their burning missiles in all directions, except into the town; the orders to spare that being still in full force. The enemy replied with mortars from the rear of Malakoff, the Redan, and Flagstaff works; but we were evidently two to one superior to them in such ordnance. This deficiency they occasionally compensated for by the use of their guns, which, when fired in volleys, were by no means to be trifled with.

The advantage of the second day's fire was evidently with the Allies. Whatever was the reason the enemy most certainly did not fight with their usual vigour. We had not destroyed their works—their guns were still good and serviceable, yet still they continued silent under our cannonade during the greater part of the day. The conduct of the enemy was, on the whole, so extraordinary that even the wildest conjectures to account for it gained temporary credit in the English Camp.

According to some the garrison was not sufficient to man all the defences, while others ascribed it to the want of ammunition, which was certainly less probable, as up to the moment of our opening fire the enemy had wasted it in the most reckless manner, and as if their stores of it were inexhaustible.

At daybreak on the 11th the fire was resumed by the Allies and Russians, and for some time with equal vigour on both sides. In spite of the fire of our mortars, the enemy during the past night had managed to repair much of the damage which the Mamelon sustained, and also the works of the Flagstaff Battery opposed to the French. For the first hour of hostilities all the Russian works were fought with vigour and determination; but after that time (about half-past six) the guns round the Malakoff and Mamelon again ceased their cannonade, and from that period, until late in the day, seemed perfectly indifferent to our fire. In the evening, between five and six o'clock, they sent forth a tremendous volley from all parts of their defences. This was done, probably, as a gentle hint that their works were by no means in that state of dilapidation when a general assault would be either easy or safe.

During the whole of the night the fire of our mortars was incessant, and on the morning of the 12th the long guns recommenced with renewed energy; but, in spite of our bombardment, the enemy had evidently been again busy during the night, and part of the Flagstaff and nearly all the Mamelon embrasures were repaired. In the former, apparently, no new guns had been mounted, but in the latter were two. The fire was much the same as during the previous day, viz., a well-sustained cannonade from the Allies throughout, and the enemy replying very slackly, except from the Flagstaff and Redan. Occasionally nearly all their works gave forth tremendous volleys, almost simultaneously; but their spirits, though terrific, never lasted above half an hour, after which two-thirds of their line relapsed into comparative silence. The fighting was principally between the Flagstaff and French batteries, and the Redan and our right and left attacks. The Flagstaff each hour seemed to suffer more and more under the incessant cannonade of the French, and towards evening its fire was considerably slackened. Its fire was not now more than one half of that which it maintained on the morning of the 9th.

The night of the 12th inst. was wild and unfavourable, with continued heavy rain, yet still our bombardment never slackened for a moment. The *Beagle*, which was moored off Sebastopol at a long range, also assisted in the fire, by casting loose her Lancaster guns, and throwing shells into the works the whole night. She also fired about fifty Congreve rockets into the works opposed to the French.

On the morning of the 13th, when our batteries recommenced, the effects of our assault were still more apparent. The fire of the Flagstaff was evidently slack, even more markedly so than on the previous evening. It scarcely replied one gun to the French three. The devastating traces of the shot were also most apparent. Not only were the lower tier of guns quite destroyed, but the upper seemed in a fair way of following them. Two or three of them were already dismantled, and the earth of the parapets so scamed and torn that the rest of the ordnance appeared as if pointing out between loose piles of earth. The Barrack work was also suffering much, and nearly one-third of its embrasures were empty.

A new battery which the English had formed in the advanced trench was completed and opened this morning. The tremendous volley with which it commenced quite took the Russians by surprise. Each day they had been accustomed to see our 10-inch mortars fire from the same part of our works, and doubtless for that very reason never anticipated further molestation. The sudden and continued fire, therefore, of eight enormous guns, in addition to their old assailants, the mortars, was a complete and unpleasant surprise. At the first discharge one of their guns was dismantled and another injured, and their artillerymen either ran away or concealed themselves, as they were not to be seen. Only one gun was fired in reply, so that for five or ten minutes our battery had nothing to do but blaze away without fear of opposition. After that time the enemy appeared to take heart, and several guns were fired, but it was fully half an hour before they had made anything like a vigorous defence. Then, indeed, the fire they maintained showed that very many of the embrasures which were supposed to be silenced had merely had their guns withdrawn, and these they brought forward and well manned. For about an hour the enemy fought with great determination; but from the first they had no chance of being able to maintain it long. As soon as it was seen that the Malakoff works were determined to engage our advanced battery, one face of Gordon's Battery, mounting ten guns and two mortars, was directed upon it, and the 13-inch mortar battery at the picket-house also threw its missiles against the Round Tower. With these, and with the assistance of the four 10-inch mortars near the advanced work, and several columns throwing 32-lb shell, a perfect hail was poured into our old enemy. For a time it was well fought; but our immense shot dismantled the guns or cut up the earthworks, while the shell dropping over burst continually among its defenders.

Towards eight o'clock its fire had slackened considerably, and before nine the enemy for that time gave up the contest as hopeless, and such guns as could still be used were withdrawn from the embrasures, and our batteries left to do their worst upon the earthworks. During this battery fight the Mamelon, as usual, revived from its state of inaction, and, to the astonishment of every one, put forward five guns and fired them continually. The demonstration, however, did little good beyond drawing on it, when the Malakoff was quiet, the fire of the mortar battery of the picket-house, and under these tremendous bombs it was soon reduced to its former inaction. Our advanced work then continued to fire at the Malakoff, which never offered any serious resistance for the remainder of the day. Every twenty minutes or so two or three of its guns were run forward and fired, but beyond this it was quiet, and seemed to have no more than twenty or thirty men in it.

The daily casualties have been heaviest among the naval brigade, which, though less than a sixth of the force in the batteries, furnishes rather over one-third of our total loss. The average each day has been about 60 killed and wounded, and about 100 French. The wounded are now infinitely better taken care of than at the former bombardment. The ambulances remain in sheltered ravines behind the batteries, in which the wounded are conveyed to head-quarters, and there placed upon the railway-trucks and sent down easily to Balaklava. The cases of amputation and severe wounds remain there in hospital; the others are immediately embarked on board ship.

Our bombardment continued throughout the whole of Friday night (the 13th) with much effect, and next morning the guns again recommenced. The fire of the enemy was slackening more and more each day. There was a slight sortie on the night of the 13th upon the French, who were sapping up towards the Flagstaff. It was instantly repulsed, with a loss of ten or twelve killed to the Russians.

The telegraphic despatches bring down the news from Sebastopol to the 14th inst., but the accounts are very meagre. The French had carried a series of ambulances in front of the Central Tower. They had also sprung a mine in front of the Flagstaff Battery, which had given them a new parallel, and was successfully joined to the others. From the 12th to the 14th the loss of the French had only been 300 men.

Prince Gortschakoff, in a despatch dated the 19th, states that the fire of the enemy had not been so strong on the 16th, 17th, and 18th, as it was previously.

As regards the movements of the Russian army little information is given. A considerable force of from 8000 to 10,000 men made their ap-



pearance on the 12th on the heights of the Woronzow-road, opposite Balaklava, and it was expected that they would sooner or later strive to effect a diversion by attacking that place. They will find, however, that the place is not so weak as it was formerly. Omar Pacha has moved down there with 15,000 of the Turkish troops recently arrived at Kamiesch. The Turks, who are fine troops, are the same fellows who gave so good a specimen of their courage at Eupatoria. At Kadikoi, the weakest garrisoned portion of our lines near Balaklava, 8000 have been posted behind strong breastworks, which the Turks have still further defended by the addition of 30 pieces of artillery. These ought to secure our position at that point, if it is in the power of earthworks and guns to do it.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, April 24, 1855.  
Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. :—

My Lord,—In accordance with the arrangement made between General Canrobert and myself, the batteries of the French and English armies opened upon Sebastopol soon after daylight yesterday morning.

The weather was extremely unpropitious. Much rain had fallen in the course of the night, and it continued during the day, accompanied by a tempestuous wind, and a heavy mist which obscured everything, and rendered it impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the effect of the fire, which has been continued with little or no interruption from the commencement, and has been superior to that of the enemy, who were evidently taken by surprise, and, except upon the extreme left, did not respond to the attack for nearly half an hour.

This morning has been hazy, and for some time there was a drizzling rain; but it is clearing this afternoon, and there is again a prospect of fine weather.

The country yesterday was covered with water, and the ground was again very deep. The trenches were likewise extremely muddy, and their condition added greatly to the labours of the men employed in the batteries, who consisted chiefly of sailors, artillerymen, and sappers.

They conducted their duties admirably, and I am sorry to say that the two former, particularly the Navy, sustained considerable loss.

I have not yet received the returns of the casualties beyond the 9th inst., which are herewith enclosed; but the death of Lieutenant Twyford, of the Royal Navy—a most promising officer, and greatly respected by all—has been notified to me; and Captain Lord John Hay—who has taken a most active part in the gallant and distinguished services of the Naval Brigade—was wounded almost at the very moment, I believe by the same shot. I hope the injury he has received is not very serious; but the loss of his assistance, even for a time, is much to be regretted.

The Russians have not shown themselves in any force in front of Balaklava. The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c. RAGLAN.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 6TH TO 21ST APRIL, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.—4th Foot: Private Charles Ship. 44th: Private John Blackburn. 97th: George Keogh.

WOUNDED.—4th Foot: Privates Daniel Cockerth, Thomas Gelling, William Norman, slightly. 19th: Private Joseph Hales, slightly. 30th: Private George Sheppard, slightly. 34th: Privates Patrick McNamara, severely; William Cook, slightly. 39th: Private William Morgan, slightly. 49th: Private John Egan, severely. 80th: Corporal William Palmer, Lance Corporal Matthew Burke, severely. 97th: Private George Evans, severely. Royal Artillery: Gunner and Driver James Flood and Henry Davis, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Lance Corporal J. Veal, slightly.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE ON THE 9TH APRIL.

KILLED.—Lieutenant Samuel Twyford, London; John Glanville, sail-maker, Wasp; William Miller, A.B., Albion; Daniel Gould, Ordn. Queen; John Bradwell, L.S., Leander; Daniel Albion, A.B., Leander; Joseph Burrows, A.B., Queen; Thomas Dugdon, A.B., Queen.

WOUNDED.—Captain Lord John Hay, slightly; Robert Gardner, A.B., London, fatally (since dead); William Jones, sailmaker's crew, Wasp, slightly; John Fry, Ordn., London, severely; Samuel Eakin, Ordn., London, severely; George Ellis, Ordn., Queen, severely; Charles Stammers, A.B., Queen, severely; Charles Gray, Ordn., Leander, slightly; Edward Hukins, Ordn., Leander, slightly; Henry Addin, Captain Mast, London, slightly.

CONTUSED.—Henry Leacock, A.B., Queen, severely; James Newby, Ordn., Leander, severely; Frank Wadham, Ordn., Queen, slightly.

STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, Captain Commanding Naval Brigade.

War Department, April 26, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its inclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. :—

My Lord,—Since I wrote to your Lordship on the 10th inst., a steady and heavy fire upon the works of the enemy has been maintained from all the batteries of the Allies.

The fire of the British artillery, chiefly directed against the Garden Batteries, the Barrack Battery, the Kedan, the Malakoff Tower, and the Mamelon, has been most effective, and the enemy's works have suffered very considerably; although they have, as usual, made a good use of the night to repair damages, notwithstanding that the vertical fire has been continued throughout the twenty-four hours.

The practice both of the Naval Brigade and the Artillery has been excellent.

The casualties have not been very numerous; but the loss has fallen heavily upon the sailors, as your Lordship will see by the accompanying returns; and the Royal Navy has to deplore the death of Lieut. Douglas, who had served with great ability and zeal from the commencement of the siege.

Lieutenants Urmston and D'Aeth, Royal Navy, and Steele, Royal Marine Artillery—all valuable officers—have been wounded.

The Royal Artillery has also to lament the death of Lieutenant Luce, who was an officer of much promise; and Lieutenants Sinclair and L'Estrange are among the wounded. The former has sustained several severe injuries; but I am happy to add that there is every hope of his recovery. They are both highly meritorious officers.

Captain Crofton, of the Royal Engineers—who had, in the course of the protracted operations before Sebastopol, rendered most important service—has also received a wound, which will, I fear, detain him from duty for a very considerable time.

Our batteries and parapets continue to stand remarkably well, notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather.

The enemy's fire has been comparatively slack, but the practice good; and, owing to their having ascertained the range of our batteries with great nicety, several guns have been disabled in both the right and left attacks.

Towards the Tchernaya nothing important has been observed; but small bodies of men (from 150 to 500) have been seen, with a heavy gun and some ordnance carriages, moving along the Inkerman heights towards Mackenzie's Farm road, near which it has been placed in position.

Although the duties have been unusually severe and arduous both by day and night during the week, they have been carried out with the utmost cheerfulness and zeal, reflecting much credit both on officers and men.

The submarine telegraph has been safely brought to the Monastery from Cape Kelegra, and, as soon as it is established at the former place, the engineers will proceed to convey it from the latter to the immediate neighbourhood of Varna, where I hope it may be in a state to act in a week or ten days from this time.

The first division of the 10th Hussars arrived this day at Balaklava. The Lord Panmure, &c., &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

RETURNS OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED FROM THE 9TH TO THE 12TH APRIL.—Royal Artillery: Lieut. E. Luce.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED FROM THE 9TH TO THE 12TH APRIL.—Royal Engineers: Lieut. T. M. Graves, slightly; Captain G. Crofton, severely.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM THE 9TH TO THE 12TH APRIL.—Royal Artillery: Gunners and Drivers Archibald Garraw, William Hazard, John Wren. 19th Foot: Private John Elliot. 30th: Private William Goldie. 97th: Private Patrick Pugh. Royal Artillery: Gunner and Driver James Flood, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Corporal A. Ramsey. 28th Foot: Private Michael Kendall. Royal Sappers and Miners: Corporal A. Ramsey. 28th Foot: Private Michael Kendall. 30th: Private Daniel Carey. 49th: Private Michael McGarry. Royal Artillery: Gunners and Drivers James McIntyre and Michael Callaghan, Bombardier Marshall Brown. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Sergeant Michael Devitt, Privates George Brown, John Eagle, William Lewis, James Lyons.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 9TH TO THE 12TH APRIL.—30th Foot: Private Joseph Burnford, slightly. 41st: Private James Croughan, severely. 80th: Private Samuel Atkinson, severely. 90th: Private William Hodges, severely. Royal Artillery: Sergeant Thomas Cornish, severely. Gunners and Drivers James Edgington, Henry J. Weston, John S. Spence, and Thomas Childs, slightly; Moses Clure and Joseph Pagan, severely; Bombardier George Broadhead, slightly. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private Thomas Blair, severely. 49th: Private Peter Graham, severely. 97th: Private Patrick O'Brien, severely. 90th: Private James Butler, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private William Taylor, severely; J. Boston, severely. 18th: Private Michael Doughty, slightly. 33rd: Private John Coleman, severely. 40th: Private Samuel Doughty, severely. 55th: Private Patrick Connolly, slightly. 56th: Private John Goldin, severely. 62nd: Private Patrick Kerby, slightly. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private William Roberts, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private John Thomas, severely. Royal Artillery: Gunners and Drivers William Hanson, severely; Joseph Wilson, Bombardier Robert Wilson, slightly. 19th Foot: Privates Alfred Moore, slightly; Robert Foyle, severely. 39th: Corporal George Togg, severely, since dead. Private Peter Fell, severely. 90th: Private James McClelland, severely. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates Thomas Holland, severely; John Moore, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates Thomas Battle, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Privates Alfred Jarrett, mortally, since dead; Donald McArthur, severely; James Byrne, slightly.

Supplementary Nominal Return of Officers Wounded from the 9th to 12th April.—Royal Artillery: Lieuts. J. Sinclair and P. W. L'Estrange, severely.

Supplementary Nominal Return of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Killed from 9th to 12th April.—Royal Artillery: Gunner John Polson.

Supplementary Nominal Return of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from 9th to 12th April.—Royal Artillery: Gunner David Johnston, slightly; Corporal John Byers, slightly; Gunners Adam Smith, Jeremiah Deillon, and Richard Oliver, severely; William M. in James Brown, William Henderson, James Hornaby, Robert Hale, Michael Burke, and William O'Neil, slightly.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE BETWEEN THE 9TH AND 13TH APRIL.—Killed: William Miller, A.B., Albion, Leander; Edward Toward, London; John Glanville, A.B., Albion, Leander; Daniel Gould, Ordn. Queen; John Bradwell, L.S., Leander; Daniel Albion, A.B., Leander; Joseph Burrows, A.B., Queen; Thomas Dugdon, A.B., Queen. Wounded: R.D. Gardner, A.B., London, fatally, since dead; Wm. Jones, sailmaker's mate, Wasp, slightly; John Fry, Ordn., London; Samuel Finhorn, Ordn., London; George Ellis, Ordn., Queen; Charles Stammers, A.B., Queen, severely. Charles Gray, Ordn., Leander; Edw. Hukins, Ordn.,

Leander; Henry Golding, captain mast, London; Captain Lord John Hay, Wasp, slightly. Contused: Henry Leacock, A.B., Queen; Jan. Newby, Ordn., Leander, severely; Frank Wadham, Ordn., Queen, slightly.

10th April.—Killed: Charles McLellan, A.B., Leander; William Pawley, A.B., Leander. Wounded: Leonard Beckler, A.B., London, mortally (since dead); Robert Wells, A.B., Leander, slightly; James Smalley, gunner's mate, Leander, slightly; Mr. Richard Rowe, gunner, Leander, slightly; William Houltram, Ordn., Wasp, slightly; William Pepper, A.B., Wasp, slightly; George Eymour, A.B., Leander, slightly. Contused: Michael Kennedy, Ordn., Leander, slightly.

11th April.—Killed: Jas. Steacy, Ordn., London; Stephen Turner, A.B., Wasp; (Edw. Malone, A.B., Wm. Lawson, A.B., Leander. Wounded: John Davidson, A.B., Nicholas Molin, Ordn., mortally, since dead; Queen; Roger O'Brien, A.B., Queen, dangerously; Francis C. Dawkins, Ordn., Leander; Robert, captain fore-castle, Leander; Charles Huxtable, A.B., Albion, severely; Robert Wallace, A.B., Leander; Thomas Cocker, A.B., Leander; Patrick O'Donoghue, captain fore-top, Leander; Thomas Hargrave, Gunner, R.M.A., Wasp; Lieut. Urnston, Queen; William Pierce, Ordn., Queen; William Meek, A.B., Leander; Sylvester Burrell, quartermaster, Leander; Wm. Bradley, Ordn., Queen; George Sherwood, Ordn., Wasp; Charles Anderson, A.B., Wasp; Charles Martin, A.B., Leander, slightly.

12th April.—Killed: Lieut. W. K. Douglas, Queen; William Soutbrey, Ordn., Queen. Wounded: John McLellan, Ordn., Queen, dangerously; John Glanville, Ordn., Queen; Thomas Corbelle, A.B., Queen; Peter Buxey, A.B., Leander; Thomas Noble, A.B., Leander; and William Jones, A.B., Queen, severely. Richard Oliver, Ordn., Queen; Edward Smith, A.B., Queen; R.D. Sture, Ordn., Queen; Joseph Conway, Ordn., Queen; Robert Darby, Ordn., London; Griffith Evans, Ordn., London; Daniel Hawkins, A.B., Leander; Isaac Brooking, Ordn., Queen; William Hanbury, Ordn., Leander; Lieutenant Steele, R.M.A.; Peter Jones, A.B., Queen, slightly. Contused: Fernando Chatworthy, Ordn., Queen; Robert Regan Ordn., Leander; James Ilac, Ordn., London; William Hollings, A.B., Queen; Charles Bussey, A.B., Leander; John Lacey, Ordn., Queen; Richard Garnett, captain fore-top, Queen; James White, captain main-top, Queen; Joseph Staley, R.M.A., Wasp, slightly.

13th April.—Wounded: William White, surgeon's mate, Wasp, severely. John Mason, Ordn., Queen; William Pepper, A.B., Rodney; William Hollings, Ordn., Albion; Henry Jones, A.B., Leander; and Lieutenant D'Aeth, London, slightly. Contused: James Butler, Ordn., London, slightly.

DESPATCH FROM SIR E. LYONS.

Admiralty, April 26.  
A despatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea :—

PROCEEDINGS OF NAVAL BRIGADE.

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, April 13.  
Sir,—My letter of the 10th inst., No. 284, will have informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the siege batteries before Sebastopol reopened their fire on the 9th instant.

I grieve to say that the casualties have been severe, though not, perhaps, more than might have been expected, considering the number of guns which are manned by seamen. Lists of the casualties on each day are enclosed for the information of their Lordships; and I have to lament the fall of two gallant and promising young officers, Lieutenant Samuel Twyford, of the London, and Lieutenant W. H. Douglas, of the Queen. Captain Lord John Hay and Lieutenant Urmston, of the Queen, have been wounded, though not severely. The services of the officers and seamen of the Naval Brigade have been invaluable.

I have, &c.,  
ED. LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship Asia, which sailed from New York on the 10th instant, arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

Affairs between the United States and Cuba begin to assume a serious aspect. The New York Times announces, upon the authority of its Washington correspondent, that President Pierce is determined to push matters to extremities; and that with this view a fleet has been directed to cruise in the track of American steamers crossing the Gulf, with orders to sink any Spanish vessel which shall dare to repeat upon the high seas the outrages imposed upon the El Dorado, the Daniel Webster, and the Illinois. The Times remarks :—"The measure is an extreme one; but we misunderstand the popular heart if it does not thoroughly approve and sustain it. True, Spain is weak and we are strong; but her imbecility gives her no licence for insolence, notwithstanding her conduct of late years has indicated a firm faith in such a right."

The New York Herald announces that the sloop of war Jamestown had sailed for Havana. The coast of Africa is understood to be her ultimate destination; but it is supposed that she has been ordered to touch at Havana to look after the Spanish cruisers that have recently overhauled our mail steamers.

The American Government have ordered three officers of distinction of the United States army to proceed to Sebastopol, and view the siege operations.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS  
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 23.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Apr. 20.	30.144	64.4	41.2	50.7	+ 3.7	68	N. & E.	0.00
" 21.	30.470	56.2	32.5	43.2	— 4.0	71	N.E.	0.00
" 22.	30.492	49.0	29.0	41.0	— 6.5	75	S.E.	0.00
" 23.	30.482	65.6	31.0	45.8	— 7.0	82	E.	0.00
" 24.	30.286	68.0	28.2	46.4	— 1.8	75	N.E.	0.00
" 25.	30.123	53.4	41.5	45.4	— 3.1	83	N.E.	0.00
" 26.	30.220	59.4	32.2	43.5	— 5.3	84	N.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.  
The reading of the barometer increased from 30.14 in. at the beginning of the week to 30.47 in. by the 21st; decreased to 30.43 in. by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.49 in. by the 22nd; decreased to 30.10 in. by the 25th; increased to 30.22 in. by the 26th; and decreased to 30.17 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.294 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 45.1°, being 2.7° below the average of thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 39.8°, being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer on the 24th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 25.3°. The greatest was 40° on the 24th, and the least 12° on the 25th.

The weather throughout the week was fine, but cold, and the sky at times was free from cloud.

Lewisham, April 27, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending April 21 the births of 916 boys and of 872 girls were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average number for the sixteenth week of the year for the preceding ten years was 744 males and 728 females. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1087—a number less than the average for the same week by 51.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday the thirty-first anniversary of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at the London Tavern; Admiral the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., President of the Society, in the chair. He was supported by a most respectable and influential company. Mr. Lewis read the annual report, which stated that thirteen additional life-boat stations had been brought into connection with the institution during the past year, besides five new life-boats built in the same period by the society, making a total of fifty life-boats under the direction of the society. The total number of lives rescued from shipwreck during the past year through the direct agency of the life-boats of the society was 132; in addition to which the institution has granted rewards amounting to £310 for saving the lives of 223 other wrecked persons by various life-boats and other means, besides many silver medals and other honorary awards. The total number of persons saved from shipwreck since the first establishment of the institution in 1824, through the instrumentality of its life-boats and other means, was 9222. It appeared that the total income of the society during the past year was only £1745, while its expenditure on life-boats, &c., was £2672. Various resolutions were passed pledging the meeting to use its best exertions to augment the income of the society; and, after a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman, the proceedings closed.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.—The artistes from the Théâtre de la Gaîté, in the celebrated piece "Les Cosaques," commenced on Saturday an engagement for six nights, appearing in their original characters. Notwithstanding an extraordinary run of two hundred nights, the piece is simply one of circumstance, and not of dramatic pretension. The Russian occupation of Champagne, in 1814, is the subject; the Cossacks being depicted as the oppressors of the French. An *encluse* in a *capitulant* is the main incident; a barricade is made, and the Muscovites are beaten. This scene, well managed, is naturally exciting. In the present theatre an addition was made to it; English soldiers being introduced in aid of the French, and as firing on the Russians. The victory being obtained, the Allied forces fraternised in due form, the band playing "God Save the Queen," followed by "L'art pour la Syrie." "Les Cosaques" is the production of M.M. Alphonse Arnault and Louis Judicis, and was first acted on the 24th of November, 1853. A veteran sergeant, *Duriveau*, admirably impersonated by M. Paul Menier, is very amusing, from the disguises assumed, and the constant stiffness which always identifies the wearer. In contrast with this part is that of *Jean Panel*, a provincial soldier, his companion, which, in the representation of M. Alexandre, is sufficiently eccentric to be remarkably exciting. The company includes some names that are celebrated—Mesdames Lambquin and Leontine, with M. Gouzet. The audience was numerous, and the *troupe* very successful.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The plot thickens with a vengeance—the Vienna Conference is adjourned *sine die*, and the bombardment of Sebastopol still continues, up to the last accounts, without, as yet, any decisive success. Four hundred heavy cannon, more than one hundred mortars—twenty-eight of which are of the largest calibre existing, calculated to throw shells thirteen inches in diameter—hurled ceaselessly, day and night, an iron hail against the forts and towers of the city. One would fancy that a week of this work would make an impression on the rock of Gibraltar; yet the earthen ramparts of Sebastopol have endured it for no less a period, without being seriously damaged. As, however, it appears that the artillery of the Allies is decidedly superior to that of the Russians, it seems clear that only three causes can prevent the ultimate success of the former, at least as far as the south side of the town is concerned. Continual dropping, we are told, will wear away a stone; and when the drops are shot and shell there must be a limit, somewhere, even to the endurance of this stubborn Crimean fortress. The three things that may prevent success are—failure of ammunition; the giving in of the guns themselves from the amount of work laid upon them; and, lastly, though not likely, a successful attack by the enemy on our own position. There is one thing (among many) that I have never been able to understand in our conduct of this great siege, and that is, why we are not now in a position to take Sebastopol to a certainty. I will explain. I suppose it is not to be denied that a cannon-shot, fired from a proper distance, must do some mischief to the strongest fortress. A heavy shell does more, with the advantage that the longer the range the greater are its powers of destruction. Now we hear that the Allies possess twenty-eight of the heaviest class of mortar—that which throws a shell weighing nearly 2 cwt. four thousand yards, with an elevation of the same amount. The effect of the mere weight of such a mass of iron descending in a parabola from a height of two miles would be to bury itself in a hard-paved road some six or eight yards. Now, suppose that, instead of twenty-eight of these agreeable instruments, we had five hundred of them. I should like to know how many discharges of such a battery the Malakoff Tower (now understood to be the key of the Russian position) would stand! Is it to be believed that in the last six months the manufacturing industry of the country could not have made five hundred such mortars—that the shipping industry could not have carried them to the Crimea—or that now the railway could not carry them up from Balaklava to the trenches?

Exercise is necessary to the well-being of quadruped as well as biped nature. Even the artificial existence of your wife's or daughter's pets, Pompey and Fido—darlings principally made up of nose, ears, and eyes—is menaced by dropsy or apoplexy unless they can get an occasional airing. One day having been taken out for a run in the Park, Fido is missing. That decent-looking man in a fustian jacket, beneath whose carpenter's apron the afflicted beauty is gasping, might tell how the loss occurred. You, *Paterfamilias*, are not perhaps particularly sorry; but, the female part of your family being of a different opinion, you well know that there is not likely to be much peace in the establishment till Fido is recovered—or forgotten, as the case may be. You, therefore, knowing that the well-known Mr. Bishop of Bond-street has what the French call a *specialité* for recovering lost dogs, betake yourself to his shop, explain the matter, and within a few days, at the expense of certain coins, Fido, considerably thinner and altogether improved in health by his forced sojourn in the supposed carpenter's garret, is restored to his mistress. This is what you would have done up to last Tuesday, but you won't do so any more, for on that day the law, speaking by the voice of Mr. Bingham, at Marlborough-street police-court, warned Mr. Bishop in unmistakable language to leave henceforth stolen dogs to their fate. Certainly, when the magistrate told Mr. Bishop that his system of recovering stolen dogs "was a practice fraught with mischief, and tending to encourage the offence which the Legislature has sought to suppress by an Act, in the introduction of which he himself was mainly concerned," he said merely the truth. Theft is increased by every facility allowed to make a profit by it. However, in this case, the magistrate's decision is likely to go hard with the owners of pet dogs; there is little doubt that they will be stolen just as heretofore, but, instead of being recoverable for a moderate amercement, they will be sent out of the country—to France, Holland, or Belgium, where the demand for such articles is brisk.

The Crimean Committee again. This week we have the Duke of Newcastle's evidence, given with a frankness, an absence of anything like fencing with questions, and an oblivion of self, which, were the circumstances less grave, would disarm criticism. No man who reads the Duke's very gentlemanlike avowals can doubt that he was, as War Minister, a hardworking, conscientious, intelligent public servant—one, too, by no means wedded to official routine, but desirous to get information from every possible source, and to act upon it to the best of his not small ability. But the "situation" was too much for him—the tools with which he worked were, like the Ordnance pickaxes, of bad materials, and badly put together. A stern, determined man was wanted, one with a brain and nerves of iron, a sort of administrative Martin Luther; and it is no disparagement to the Duke to say he is not such a man. Yet it is only fair to ask who would have more worthily filled the post. At least the Duke of Newcastle had not the gout.

MUSIC.

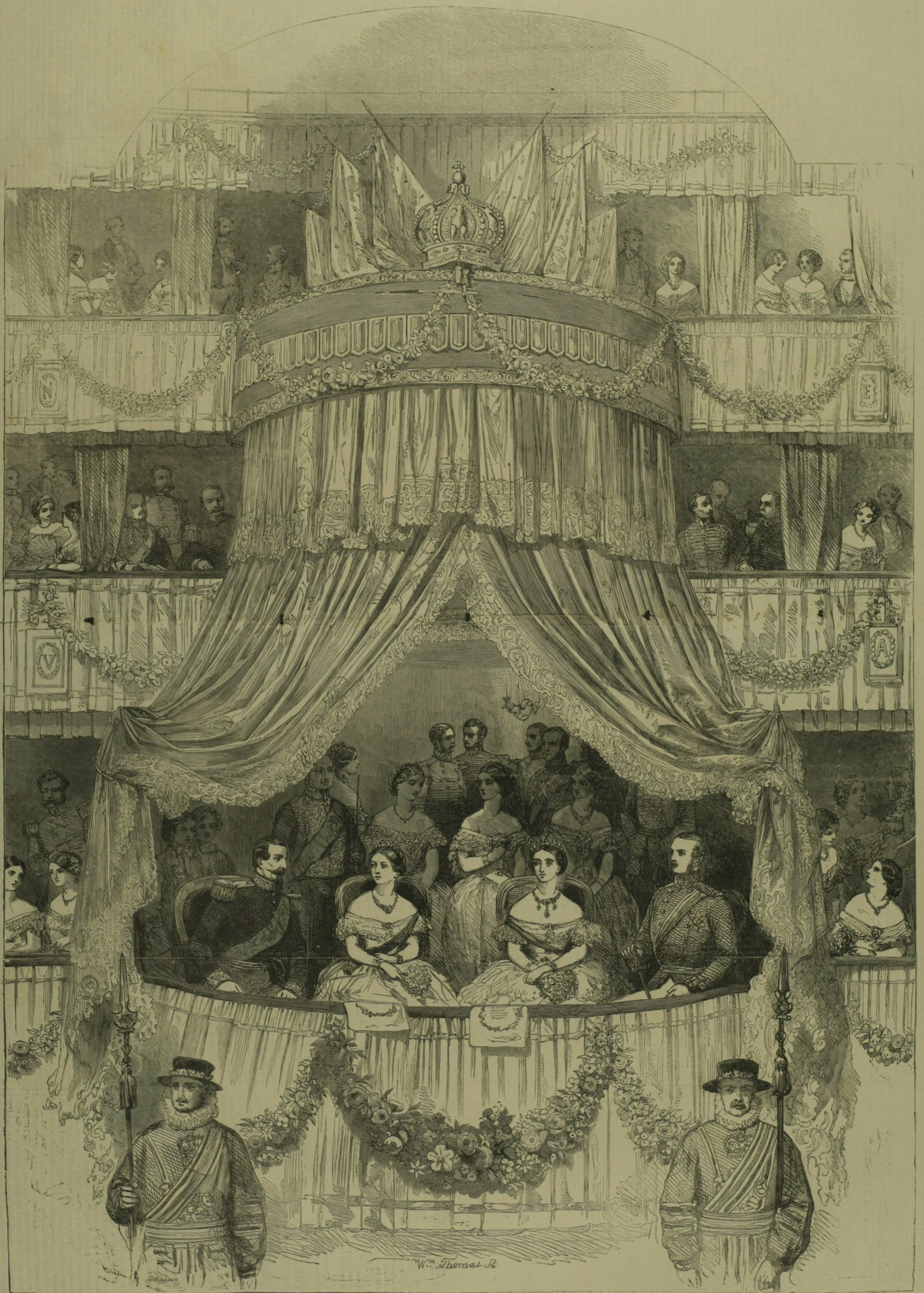
BEETHOVEN'S *Fidelio*, which (as we mentioned last week) was performed at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA on the occasion of the state visit of the Queen and her Imperial guests, was repeated on Saturday evening with better effect, for then the audience were disposed to attend to it. Mademoiselle Jenny Ney fully supported her high Continental reputation by her performance of the character of *Leonora*. She is not handsome; her person is more large and full than consists with symmetry of form, and her features are not regular. But still she possesses a kind of beauty—after all, the best kind—that which is derived from indications of mind. Her face is pleasing from its expression, and her whole deportment evinces great modesty, joined to intelligence and feeling. Her performance of Beethoven's heroine is not marked by striking points, but its truthful earnestness renders it deeply interesting. In this respect, as in others, she reminds us of the celebrated Madame Schröder Devrient, who first performed this character in England. Madlle. Ney, moreover, is a singer of the highest class. Her voice is of the finest quality, and of an extraordinary compass, ranging from the heights of the soprano to the depths of the contralto. She was well supported by Tambrilich, who, in his old part of *Florestan*, acted and sang admirably. The other principal parts were performed by Madlle. Marai, Formès, and Tagliacico. The Queen visited the Theatre on Tuesday, to witness the performance of "Il Conte Ory."

THE ROYAL OPERA at Drury-lane goes on extremely well. M. and Madme. Cassier have already gained a large share of public favour, and draw full houses every night they appear. The company, altogether, is efficient; and the performance of the "Barbière di Siviglia," at this theatre would be creditable to any opera-house whatever. Madame Gassier's *Rosina* is charming; as a piece of acting, full of gaiety and spirit, besides being an admirable display of vocal talent. M. Gassier is as good a *Figaro* as we have ever seen. Bettini is an excellent *Count Almaviva*; and the part of *Basilio* seldom has such a representative as Signor Fortini. This opera was first performed on Saturday last, and repeated on Wednesday; both nights to crowded houses, and with very great applause.

THE HAYMARKET.—A very fair musical company, of which the principal members are Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves and Mr. and Madame Weiss, are now performing English operas; or, to speak more correctly, operas in English, at this theatre. They began on Tuesday night, with "Fra Diavolo," which was very nicely performed, and completely successful. Not only is the company good, but there is an excellent orchestra, with all the means and appliances of a regular musical establishment.

THE principal concert of the week has been that of the NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening. According to the newly-adopted practice of the society, it was in aid of the funds of the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton; and, from the appearance of the Hall, we may presume that it has been of considerable benefit to that valuable institution. The chief feature of the concert was Beethoven's ninth, or Choral, Symphony, which was carefully and steadily, though somewhat heavily, performed. Master John Barnett, a boy of extraordinary precocity as a pianist, played Mendelssohn's Concerto in G minor with brilliant execution and great taste and intelligence, and was warmly applauded. An air from Dr. Wyde's "Paradise Lost," very finely sung by Madame Clara Novello, was loudly encored. In the other parts of the concert there was nothing at all remarkable.





THE IMPERIAL VISIT—THE STATE BOX AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.



CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 29.—3rd Sunday after Easter.  
MONDAY, 30.—Washington inaugurated President of the United States, 1789.  
TUESDAY, May 1.—Prince Arthur born, 1850.  
WEDNESDAY, 2.—Camden born, 1551.  
THURSDAY, 3.—Inv. of the Cross. Columbus discovered Jamaica, 1495.  
FRIDAY, 4.—Seringapatam taken, 1799.  
SATURDAY, 5.—Emperor Napoleon I. died, 1821.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 5.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
0 23	0 44	1 1	1 20	1 37	1 53	2 7

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI.; Tuesday, Faust and Marguerite; Thursday, The Corsican Brothers. The Mute of Toledo; or, King, Queen, and Knave, Every Evening.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday and Wednesday Miss CUSHMAN (last two nights) as ROMEO. On Friday she will appear in a New Play. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr. Sims Reeves in the Bohemian Girl; with Mr. Weiss, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Manvers, and Mrs. Sims Reeves. The New Haymarket Spring Meeting every evening.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—The celebrated Miss GLYN as HERMIONE, in the WINTER'S TALE, produced with New and Splendid Scenery, Magnificent Dresses and Appointments. Mr. Henry Marston, Mr. George Wild, and Miss Fanny Williams, Every Evening.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On WEDNESDAY NEXT, 2nd May, will be repeated Mendelssohn's LOBESANG, and Mozart's REQUIEM. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. The Orchestra, the most extensive available in Exeter-hall, will consist of nearly 700 performers.—Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be secured by immediate application at the Society's sole office, No. 6 Room, within Exeter-hall.

LOVE, the Greatest DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe. REGENT GALLERY, 69, Quadrant. Every Evening at Eight, except Saturday.—Saturday at Three. Monday and Tuesday, THE LONDON SEASON; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOVE IN ALL SHAPES, &c.

ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE, Lowther Arcade.—DIORAMA OF THE RUSSIAN WAR EVERY EVENING.—The Boys and Band of the Duke of York's School will attend on Monday, at Three, and play National and Patriotic Pieces.—Prices: 2s., 1s., 6d.

A PERFORMANCE OF ANTHEMS AND ORGAN MUSIC will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 3, under the direction of Mr. GEORGE COOPER (Organist of St. Sepulchre's, Snow-hill, Christ's Hospital, Assistant-Organist of St. Paul's Cathedral and her Majesty's Chapel Royal), who will preside at the new and powerful Organ recently erected by Messrs. Gray and Davison. The Gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, St. George's Chapel, Windsor, &c., are engaged. Conductor, Mr. SUBLOW. To commence at Eight o'clock. Tickets, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; may be obtained at all the principal Music Warehouses. Full particulars at R. W. Oliver's, 19, Old Bond-street; and at the Hanover-square Rooms.

MR. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that his SECOND GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT will take place at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th, to commence at Eight, on which occasion Signor Bottesini will make his first appearance in England these three years, and perform a new Concerto on the Contra-Basso. Vocalists: Mdlle. Louise Cullini and Mr. Sims Reeves. Pianist, Mr. F. E. Rache. Leader, M. Sainton. The Band will consist of fifty of the finest living instrumentalists, and will perform during the evening Mendelssohn's celebrated Symphony in A Minor; also Overtures by Beethoven, Weber, Auber, &c. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 7s. 6d.; to be had of Mr. Mellon, 134, Long-acre; Cramer and Beale, 201, Regent-street; St. Martin's-hall; and the principal Music-shops.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail.
Matilda Wattenbach	1300	J. C. Clare	Calcutta	London	May 7
Ocean Queen	450	P. Ross	Bombay	London	April 27
Stuart Wortley	800	J. Simpson	Bombay	London	May 28
G. W. Bourne	721	W. H. Harding	Madras	St. Kath.	May 5
Heroes of Alma	650	Rbt. Freeman	Hong-Kong	West India	April 25
Planet	442	W. P. Buckham	Hong-Kong & Shanghai	London	May 27
Kensington	300	W. King	Port Phillip	London	May 10
Granite City	807	W. Leask	Sydney	London	May 10
Aallotat	504	Richard Pill	Geelong	London	May 12
Reehampton	469	Robert Bradshaw	Cape of Good Hope	London	May 25
Meteor	370	J. Brodie	Cape of Good Hope	London	June 5
Sea Queen	415	W. Rowe	Adelaide	St. Kath.	May 16

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 19, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

Next Week we shall complete our Illustrations with Views of the Apartments fitted up for their Imperial Majesties at Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace, including the Emperor's Drawing-room. The Empress' Drawing-room. The Emperor's Reception-room. State Bed and Bed-chamber, Buckingham Palace. Toilet Tables. Grand Staircase, Windsor Castle, &c. In this Number, also, will appear Views of the BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL, and several other Illustrations of the Progress of the War.

Portraits of the Plenipotentiaries at the Congress of Vienna.  
Memoir of the Emperor of the French, continued, &c. &c.

\*. The Notice of the Exhibition of the New Society of Painters in Water-Colours is unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1855.

Last week there were still lingering expectations that the negotiators at Vienna meant to succeed in patching up a peace, but this week all such expectations are extinguished. Russia has positively declined to make the concessions required of her. She refuses to abate in any degree her power in the Black Sea, and persists in maintaining it with a view to further aggression. The negotiators are dispersed, to make known the result to their respective Courts, and the decision of the dispute is again referred exclusively to the sword. Warlike operations, too, are extending as the season advances, with great activity. The blockade of all the Russian ports in the Baltic is renewed, and one prize has already been taken. At Sebastopol the bombardment is carried on with great vigour, but with varying success. The Russians are quite as cunning at defence as the Allies are at attack; and what the latter destroy the former quickly repair; and the trial of skill and strength is continued from day to day without as yet producing any conspicuous advantage to either side. As considerable reinforcements are still going from France, as the Sardinian Contingent is about to arrive, as the Turks are increasing in strength and usefulness, we may look forward—if the plan of operations be wise—to a decisive, a speedy, and favourable result. It is, however, no longer likely that the fall of Sebastopol, should that occur, would secure peace. The late haughty rejection by Russia of the terms offered would probably, under such circumstances, lead to extended demands on her, to which she would not readily accede, and the war would go on. Should Sebastopol not speedily fall, or not fall, this also implies a continuance of the war. A year ago it was generally hoped that one campaign would restore peace, though the resources of Russia were then directed by Nicholas. He is gone, the second campaign is begun, and there is no present prospect that it will bring the war to a conclusion. Already it involves the greatest nations of the globe, threatens to drag all Europe into its gulf, and to be of considerable duration.

The crisis in the affairs of Europe foretold by Napoleon seems to have arrived. Enlightened and philanthropic men did hope that the gradual extension of trade and the progress of civilisation would have diffused throughout Europe the sentiments of a common humanity and a common interest, and have prevented the conflict between Cossack and Soldier, between the Slavonic and Saxon and Latin races, between the Eastern and Western Christianity, between Barbarism and Civilisation, which he predicted. It has, however, come, and must be fought out, to establish fully the dominion of either.

The hopes of the philanthropists, cherished by a long peace, are now entirely extinguished. The ambition of the Czar on one hand, and the disturbed state of Europe on the other, which has filled the apprehensive minds of statesmen with alarm, and has made them more zealous in providing for the preservation of their own power than in checking his aggressions, have brought on a great crisis in national affairs, about which there is no longer any doubt, and there ought to be no longer the least hesitation. We cannot escape from the conflict, and we must put forth our whole strength, under the guidance of the greatest skill, to conduct it to a successful conclusion. Not only reputation, honour, and national greatness, but freedom and safety, are involved in the issue; for no great nation, with many envious rivals, ever lost the prestige of greatness and preserved its freedom and independence.

Modern wars, frequently undertaken for frivolous dynastic or trade objects, have done much to weaken in the public mind the seriousness and solemnity of the great task now imposed upon the nation. The present war, however, though its origin was trivial—a dispute about the precedence of Churches being the small spark that kindled the conflagration—is a war of races, creeds, and degrees of civilisation, and differs essentially from any war between the equally civilised nations of the West that has prevailed in Europe since the destruction of the Roman empire. Unfortunately, what we have hitherto performed is not a good augury for the future. So complete has been the collapse of our whole military arrangements, that an opinion has been promulgated that we are no longer capable of carrying on war. We must prove this opinion to be unfounded. We cannot yet hope always to avoid war, and the independence of no nation is safe which cannot make it good by its own strength. The mistakes and mismanagement which alone have begotten such an opinion must be corrected, for it would indeed be fatal were the neglect and error of our own rulers to produce the opinion that we can no longer successfully wield the sword. We must now fight, and we must fight well. At present this is the paramount duty of the nation, to which all others should give way. We care not what names the statesmen bear who are at the head of our affairs, nor what their rank, family, or station, but they must be men of capacity, men zealous in the great work, men of great comprehension and strong will. If our present Ministers come not up to these conditions—and certainly they have shown themselves rather compromising and careless than high principled and zealous—we must have others. It will be the duty of the people to watch that the national honour and national safety are not sacrificed to personal feelings or factious objects. The crisis is too eventful, the stake at issue too mighty, to be trifled with, and, unless we discard every notion of frivolity in regard to it, we shall be parties to the national destruction.

The late examinations, particularly that of the Duke of Newcastle, by the Committee, have laid open to the public the sad and disgraceful anarchy which exists in our several departments. No man and no Minister seems to know exactly his duties and his responsibilities. The Secretary-for-War clashes with the General commanding the Forces; the Admiralty or the Ordnance knows nothing of what the other department is doing; the Medical department is subservient to all and to none, and has always to go through so many forms that, before the end of a business is arrived at, the beginning is forgotten. For all this there is no excuse, because over all the Military power the Crown is, by the Constitution, really supreme; and if the Ministers who wield, or ought to wield, all the power, fail to introduce a proper subordination into the several departments, and amongst the several functionaries, they are exclusively to blame. George III. insisted, indeed, on maintaining a control over the Army; but Queen Victoria necessarily cedes that control entirely to her Ministers. The public has learned, therefore, from the Duke of Newcastle's examination, with astonishment, that Generals have been appointed to the Army in the Crimea without the sanction of Ministers. Lord Hardinge has done this, it is said, through inadvertence; but in submitting to it, even for a moment, the Ministers permitted the introduction of two authorities, divided the Royal power, and began or continued the anarchy in the military service it was their duty to prevent. It is now necessary that the Royal power over all the military forces should be concentrated in the hands of one able Minister, who, unthwarted by the Horse Guards, the Ordnance, or the Admiralty, and finding willing subordinates—not jealous rivals—in all the departments, should rule despotically, if necessary, over the Army and the Navy. Such a Minister has not yet been found.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL WOULFE.—This gallant officer, whose death occurred recently, was employed in the Mahratta campaign, 1803-4-5-6, and was present at the attack and defeat of Sindian Cavalry in September, 1803, near Bundnapoor; at the capture of Berhampoor; at the siege of Assierghur; at the battle of Argaum; at the storming of Gourighur; and at the siege of Chandore. He took part also in several minor affairs, and was actively engaged in the first Burmese War. For his services in India he received the war medal and four clasps, as well as the clasps for Ava.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES HERRIES died on the 24th inst., in his seventy-seventh year, at St. Julian's, near Sevenoaks. A Portrait of the right hon. gentleman, with a Memoir of his long official life, appeared in No. 368 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—Florence Thomas Young, Esq., £250,000 personality; Charles Allen Young, Esq., £120,000; Rev. Henry Say, of Swaffham, £120,000; Lady Astley, widow of Sir Henry Jacob Astley, Bart., £80,000; Thomas D'Oyley, Esq., Sergeant-at-law, £60,000. The wills of Lieut.-Colonel Harry G. Chester, 23rd Fusiliers, at Alma, and of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel John George Champion, 95th Foot, at Scutari, have been proved in London.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT.—We regret to state that an announcement, only too well authenticated, has reached London that the fine screw steam-ship *Crasus* was burnt to the water's edge soon after leaving Genoa, with the first detachment of the Sardinian Contingent on board. The troops were saved, as well as the crew, with the exception of three sailors.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

The Fourteenth Conference, which was held on Thursday, lasted two hours. The Fourth Point was discussed. The counter-propositions made by Prince Gortschakoff were rejected by the Western Powers.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys was to take his departure on Friday. THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

Although the telegraph brings news direct from the Crimea, no accounts have been allowed to appear of later date than the 19th.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday) does not publish any despatches from Sebastopol; but the *Pays* states that letters received in Paris announce the regular continuation of the siege, under the most favourable auspices, and with a success more and more marked.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at Trieste on Thursday evening, in 124 hours from Alexandria, with advices from Calcutta, March 24; Madras, March 28; Bombay, April 3; Shanghai, March 9; Canton, March 13; Hong-Kong, March 15.

A rupture with Persia is imminent; the Shah openly avows his preference for Russia.

Mr. Murray left Bagdad for Teheran on the 12th of March. The meeting between Hyder Whou and Mr. Lawrence took place near Peshawar on the 19th of March.

The traffic on the Calcutta Railway exceeds all expectations. Shanghai and Canton have been evacuated by the rebels. The Russian frigate *Diana* has been lost in Japan from the effects of an earthquake.

TELEGRAPH FROM THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL  
TO LONDON NOW OPEN THROUGHOUT, AND AT WORK.

It will be remembered that, on Monday last, we stated our belief that, on the 24th instant, the electric communication from Varna to Balacava, by submarine cable, would be completed.

We can now announce that our anticipations have been verified; and—strange and wonderful as it may seem—Head-quarters, Balacava, are, as far as possibility of telegraphic communication is concerned, but some few hours distant from the War-office in Whitehall.

This fact, so remarkable in itself as a triumph of science, derives at this moment a peculiar importance from the critical nature of the present operations in the Crimea. A thin wire traversing our stormy Channel, continuous through the vast States of France, Germany, and Turkey, diving beneath the broad Euxine, and climbing again the tall cliffs these thousand miles from home, enables us at this moment to hold almost instant converse with our distant armies.—*Morning Post*.

THE COURT.

The Court has been remarkably quiet since the departure of the Emperor and Empress of the French. The Prince Consort returned to Buckingham Palace from attending their Imperial Majesties' embarkation at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Leiningen, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince took a drive in an open landau and four. His Royal Highness rode out on horseback in the morning, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Prince of Leiningen, honoured the Princess's Theatre with their presence.

Her Serene Highness the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, accompanied by Prince Victor and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodora, arrived at Buckingham Palace at half-past one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon from the Continent, on a visit to the Queen. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe Langenburg, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, and attended by the Hon. Caroline Cavendish, the Hon. Flora Macdonald, and Lord Charles Fitzroy, went to Gloucester-house, and paid a visit of congratulation to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester on the auspicious return of her birthday. The Prince Consort and other members of the Royal family also paid visits of congratulation to the Royal Duchess during the day. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert visited her Royal Highness, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodora of Hohenlohe, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Victor of Hohenlohe.

The gaieties of the present season may be expected to commence early in the ensuing month. The Lord Chamberlain announces that her Majesty will hold Drawing-rooms on the following days:—Wednesday, 2nd May next; Saturday, 19th May next, to celebrate her Majesty's birthday. Her Majesty will also hold a Levee at St. James's Palace, on Friday, the 11th May next.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded the Viscountess Canning as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Lord De Tabley and Mr. R. Ormsby Gore have relieved Lord Rivers and Sir Edward Bowater in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—His Majesty the Emperor of the French has conferred on his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour.

The Earl Granville, who met with an accident by the horse he was driving in a cab stumbling on Constitution-hill, on the 17th inst., has suffered considerably since from the shock, and was prevented from joining his colleagues at the Cabinet Council on Saturday. We are glad to learn that his Lordship is now quite recovered.

Lord and Lady Charles Wellesley, and their youthful family, are at Conholt Park, near Andover, where they have resided since they quitted Brighton. We regret to learn the eyesight of his Lordship is considered irretrievably lost.

Lord and Lady Harry Vane have arrived in town from Naples, after passing the winter months in that capital.

LONDON AND DUBLIN POSTAL COMMUNICATION.—On Thursday a large meeting of Irish Members of Parliament and others interested in the promotion of postal facilities between England and Ireland via Holyhead was held at the King's Arms, New Palace-yard, to discuss the provisions of the bill which stood for second reading on Friday evening, in the House of Commons. Mr. Henry Vane, member for Dublin city, took the chair; Sir Cusack Roncy officiating as honorary secretary. The capital to be appropriated under the bill for the construction of steamers (which will be of a speed and capacity such as have not yet been attempted in the water service between the two countries) is limited to £400,000. The promoters confine the traffic to that of mails, passengers, and parcels; and the only ports between which the vessels are to run are Holyhead and Kingstown. Sir Cusack Roncy stated that the total time occupied from station to station, between London and Dublin, would be twelve hours certain, at all seasons and under all circumstances, allowing for refreshment, for the conveyance of trains by horses through the town of Holyhead (as Government would not permit the employment of locomotives there), and for the deposit of luggage on board the steamers, which would be of 2000 tons burden, and of the best possible construction in all respects. Numerous suggestions having been canvassed, a resolution was then agreed to impressing upon her Majesty's Government the importance and necessity of improving, as much as possible, the postal and passenger accommodation, as well by land as by sea, between London and Dublin, adding that by the great advances of late years made by mechanical science the intercourse between the two capitals can be greatly accelerated. A vote of thanks having been conveyed to Mr. Chairman, the meeting then separated, on the understanding that the second reading of the bill was to be supported on Friday evening.

The company of literary gentlemen who lately gave a dramatic representation at the Olympic Theatre, in aid of a brother author, are to appear on Friday, the 11th of May, at the Drury-lane Theatre, by the desire of her Majesty. The piece for presentation is Mr. Planché's "Romantic Idea," to be followed by the pantomime. The proceeds of the evening will be added to the funds of the Wellington College.

NEW ROUTE TO THE CONTINENT.—The Eastern Counties Railway Company are making arrangements for a very efficient steam-packet service between the ports of Harwich and Antwerp this season, the operations of last year having satisfied them of the capabilities of the station for carrying on a Continental traffic. It is intended to put on two first-class passenger boats, which have been built expressly for the North Sea trade, and to confine the service, for the present, to passenger traffic. Among other advantages attendant upon the route via Harwich are—A short sea passage, a saving of about ten hours, a harbour on each coast, accessible at all times of tide, and railway communication direct to and from the ship's side at Harwich.



## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 402.)

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

## ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the following bills, viz., Convention with Sardinia, Purchasers' Protection against Judgments, Lunacy Regulation Act (1853) Amendment, Commons Enclosure, Dean Forest, &c.

The Royal Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, and Lord Montagu.

The Earl of Malmesbury, in moving for returns relative to the exportation of horses from this country, suggested that while horses were so imperatively required for the Crimea some check should be placed upon their exportation.

The Militia (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Layard, said that the telegraph had been completed to Balacava; but the only intelligence received was that it had been so completed.

Sir C. WOOD, in reply to further questions, said, only two messages had been received. The telegraph was not entirely open to Balacava; but it was so far open that a message had been received from Sir E. Lyons in twenty-four hours.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Roebuck, said that the War-office would communicate with Lord Raglan, requesting him to send every day a report of the progress of operations against Sebastopol.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Grogan, said that the stocks of spirits in the hands of wholesale dealers would not be assessed to the new duties.

## LOAN BILL.

The Loan Bill was read a second time.

The Customs Duties Bill led to some discussion, but was eventually read a second time.

The Spirit Duties (Scotland and Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

## TESTAMENTARY JURISDICTION BILL.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill.

Mr. MALINS moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He considered that the measure, so far from being an improvement of the present system, was calculated to increase the evils complained of.

Mr. COLLIER supported the bill because it would abolish the Ecclesiastical Courts, which from time immemorial had been condemned.

Sir F. THESIGER opposed the bill.

After much discussion the debate was adjourned.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord SHAFFESBURY put a question to the General Commanding-in-Chief with respect to certain irregularities of recent occurrence, which took place at Canterbury, between some young officers of the 30th Regiment. He could not but think that the commanding officers were the parties to blame on these occasions, and it was they who should be held responsible for all such breaches of discipline. He asked the noble Viscount whether he had taken measures to put a stop to such disgraceful practices.

Lord HARDINGE regretted very much that habits of practical joking were so prevalent in the Army. He had not overlooked the particular instance to which the noble Earl had called his attention; he had thought it his duty to issue a severe admonition on the matter; and should this not be attended with the desired effect, he should go still further, and recommend her Majesty to exercise her prerogative with respect to the offending and culpable parties.

Lord HARDWICKE said, were he Commander-in-Chief, he would hold the commanding officers of the several regiments responsible; and, if this resolution were adopted, he would warrant that no such discreditable practices would be carried on as those which had brought disgrace of late on the military profession.

A long and desultory discussion then took place upon the subject of Church Rates, introduced by the Bishop of Exeter.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved for a return of the quantity of hemp, flax, and tallow received into this country from Russia and Prussia between the 1st of January and the 27th of April, in the years 1853, 1854, and 1855, respectively. The noble Earl inquired whether her Majesty's Government intended, with a view to bring the war with Russia to a speedy conclusion, further to restrict the trade of that country by prohibitory duties, or by any other means?

Lord STANLEY of Alderney said, in respect to the blockade in the Baltic, it was found inadvisable in the first instance to insist upon it, as the property in those ports were known chiefly to belong to British subjects, but vigorous efforts had been taken to cripple the trade of Russia.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

## STATE OF THE NATION.

Mr. LAYARD gave notice that, on an early day, he would move the following resolutions:—

That this House views with deep and increasing concern the actual state of the nation.

That, whilst at all times the administration of public affairs should be entrusted to those best qualified to discharge the duties imposed upon them, it is the more necessary that it should be so at a moment of great national emergency.

That the manner in which merit and efficiency have been sacrificed to party and family influences, and to a blind adherence to routine in the appointments to the great offices of the State, and to posts in diplomacy, the Army, and other branches of the public service, is opposed to the best interests of the State; and has already given rise to grave misfortunes, threatens to bring discredit upon the national character, and to involve the country in serious disasters.

That this House will give its best support to any Ministry which, in the present emergency, shall propose to itself, as its main object, the efficiency of the public service in every branch, and the vigorous prosecution of the war as the only means of securing an honourable and lasting peace.

## MR. LAYARD AND ARMY PROMOTIONS.

Mr. Ewart, Mr. H. Baring, and General Peel commented with great severity upon the speech recently made by Mr. Layard at Liverpool, and upon a letter which he published in the *Times*, charging high authorities in the Army with improper disposal of patronage. The promotions to which Mr. Layard objected were fully explained by General PEELE. With a view to show the inaccuracy of the hon. gentleman's statements, and the injustice of his attacks, he read a correspondence between Lord Hardinge and Mr. Layard, in which the former stated that the assertion was untrue that he had promoted his son at the expense of Colonel Wilson, and that it was useless to hold any further correspondence with one who made such reckless and unfounded assertions.

Mr. LAYARD replied to the charges that were made against him; but the statements of the hon. member were more general than specific. He, however, refused to withdraw any of his statements. The hon. member's speech was received throughout with loud expressions of disapprobation.

Lord PALMERSTON severely condemned the language used by Mr. Layard in his speech at Liverpool.

The Loan Bill and the Customs Duties Bill passed through Committee.

## EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The LORD ADVOCATE moved the second reading of the Education (Scotland) Bill.

Mr. BLACKBURN moved that it be read a second time that day six months, on the ground that the measure did not meet the requirements of the Scotch people.

After a long discussion the House divided, when the numbers were—For the second reading, 210; against it, 171; majority in favour of second reading, 39. The Bill was then read a second time.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

The whole of the racing interest of the ensuing week is concentrated on Chester, which has rebuilt its Grand Stand, and will commence its Roodee sports on May morning. The principal event of that day is the Palatine Stakes, for which Chalice, Lady Tatton, Capucine, Lady Palmerston, and Mosquito will probably be "coloured." In the Mostyn Stakes we find the names of two winners—to wit, Sister to Broughton, and Alfred; while the Chesterfield Handicap has thirty subscribers. Wednesday will witness the thirty-second anniversary of the Tradesmen's Cup, which has 119 acceptances out of 200 entries. Thomas Parr thinks he has it already in his grasp with the five-year-old Mortimer, 6 st. 4 lb.; and Claret, 5 st. 8 lb., is also said to be a certain starter. Joe Miller, 6 st. 8 lb., who won it in 1852, and Scythian, 7 st. 4 lb., are also well in; but the same can hardly be said of Neville, who has, including his York penalty, 7 st. 12 lb. The Dee Stakes is the principal event of Thursday, and, as it includes Corobus, Marchioness, Blooming Heather, Claret, and Lord Alfred in its entry, some line may be got by which to measure the form of Dirk Hatterick, whom his Middleham admirers aver to be nearly a stone better than his stable companion. It is not very probable that Rifleman, whom "the Squire" believes to have an equal superiority over Claret, will run in this race, but will be reserved for the Derby, for which Basham is engaged to ride him, in case Nat is not at liberty. On Friday the Grand Stand Cup and the Cheshire Stakes are the leading items of the card, along with the Triennial Stakes, in which Claret, Lord Alfred, and Lady Palmerston are antagonists. What with four days' racing, and steeplechases at Manchester on Monday, the merrier men of Lancashire will not lack May games. The Northumbrians will also have an afternoon of steeplechasing, at Wark, on Wednesday, which will virtually

wind up the 1854-55 season of this fading species of sport. The Ascot Cup entry comprises ten—Ratapan, Orestes, and Hungerford representing the "crack" seniors, Andover and Virago the four-year-olds, and Fandango and Nettle the three-year-olds. The last-named filly has been lately purchased by Mr. Palmer, the owner of Goldfinder, for two thousand guineas; but she is generally thought to have become Mr. Merry's. The struggle between this gentleman's Lord of the Isles and St. Hubert for the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, last Tuesday, produced an enormous amount of betting.

The sale of the Exeter yearlings is fixed for May 7th, and that of the Althorp yearlings for May 21st. On Wednesday there will be a very interesting sale of twenty-eight greyhounds, of the Sam, Mocking-bird, Neville, and Figaro blood, at Aldridge's Repository.

## NEWMARKET SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.

Handicap Sweepstakes of 20 sovs. each.—Old Rowley, 1. Folly-o'-the-Day, 2. Match: 100, h. ft.—Flageolet, 1. Alycane, 2. Match: 200, h. ft.—Kaffir, 1. Physalis colt, 2. Handicap Plate of £50.—Falcon, 1. Gossip, 2.

## TUESDAY.

Coffee-room Stakes.—Pugnator, 1. Nutrient, 2. Handicap Plate of £70.—Cock Pheasant, 1. Donum, 2. Two Thousand Guinea Stakes.—Lord of the Isles, 1. St. Hubert, 2. Sweepstakes of 300 sovs. each.—Boer, 1. Pelham, 2.

## WEDNESDAY.

Selling Handicap Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Priestcraft, 1. Thessaly, 2. Queen's Plate of 100 guineas.—Black Swan, 1. Testy, 2. Renewal of the Sweepstakes of 50 sovs. each.—Triton, 1. The Poor Player, 2. Plate of 50 sovs.—Fearless, 1. Vulcan, 2.

## THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—De Clare, 1. Paros, 2. One Thousand Guineas.—Habena, 1. Capucine, 2. Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Welham, 1. Thessaly, 2. Handicap.—Hothorpe, 1. Nathan, 2.

## FRIDAY.

Newmarket Stakes.—De Clare, 1. Polydore, 2. Handicap Sweepstakes.—Humboldt, 1. Falcon, 2. Sweepstakes.—Ceres, 1. Fearless, 2. Sweepstakes.—Habena walked over.

## MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although it has been officially announced that the Conference at Vienna is virtually at an end, and that Russia positively refuses to agree to the terms proposed by the Western Powers, there has been no material change in the position of the Consol Market. The new Loan of £16,000,000 has, of course, tended to impart weakness to prices; nevertheless, the fall in them during the past fortnight has not been more than about 2 per cent. At present, as the whole of the Loan has been taken up, we see no reason why the quotations should recede much below their present level—unless, indeed, unfavourable news should reach us from the Crimea. There is now an immense amount of capital seeking employment: money out of doors is becoming cheaper; and a strong impression exists in several quarters that the Bank of England will shortly find it necessary, in order to secure a fair amount of discount business, to reduce its minimum rate to four per cent. In Lombard-street money is easily obtained at that rate.

There was some flatness in Consols on Monday, and prices were decidedly lower than towards the close of last week. The Three per Cent Reduced were 87½ to 88½; the Three per Cent Consols, 89½ up to 89½; and the New Three per Cent Consols, 88½ to 89. Consols for Account varied from 89½ to 90. The Omnium was ½ to ½ prem. Bank Stock ruled at 210 to 211½. Long Annuities, New, 16½. India Stock, 230; India Bonds, 15s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99½. The market on Tuesday was steady. The Three per Cent Reduced were 87½ to 88½; the Three per Cent Consols, 88½ to 89½; Consols for Account, 88½ to 89½; New Three per Cent Consols, 88½ up to 88½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cent, 76 to 74; Long Annuities, 1860, 3½ to 15-16; Ditto, 1859, 3½. Bank Stock, 210 to 211½; New Long Annuities, 16 3-16; Indian Stock, 230; India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1859, were 99½. On the following day Bank Stock was 210. The Three per Cent Reduced marked 87½ to 88½; the Three per Cent Consols, 88½ to 89½; the New Three per Cent Consols, 88½; Long Annuities, 1860, 3½; Ditto, 1859, 3 11-16; New Long Annuities were 16 3-16; and the Omnium was ½ prem.; India Bonds, 12s. to 15s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 10s. prem.; South Sea Stock, 117½; Exchequer Bonds, 99½. On Thursday the Funds were very quiet, and the leading quotations for the Three per Cent, both for Money and Time, were 89½ to 89½, closing at 89½. The Omnium was ½ to ½ prem.; and the New Annuity, 16 3-16 ½. Exchequer Bills were 5s. to 10s. prem.; Bank Stock, 210 to 211½.

The imports of bullion have been under £200,000, chiefly from New York. As the foreign exchanges show no margin of profit on shipments, little or no gold has been forwarded to the Continent this week. There have been some sales of bar silver at 60½ per ounce, partly for India.

Most Foreign Bonds have continued very inactive. In prices, however, no material change has taken place.

The following are the returns of the note circulation of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending on the 17th ult.:—Bank of England, £19,027,991; Private Banks, 3,744,613; Joint-stock Banks, 3,032,257; Scotland, 3,811,573; Ireland, 6,657,571; Total, £36,274,005; showing a decrease of £610,183 in the circulation of notes in England, and a decrease of £859,599 in the United Kingdom, when compared with the previous month. The total decrease in the circulation, compared with the 18th of March, 1854, is £2,433,132. The stock of bullion is £2,089,342 less than last year.

The business done in the Railway Share Market has been limited. In the general quotations, however, no material change has taken place. The total "calls" for May amount to £797,180. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 88; Caledonian, 58½; Eastern Counties, 11½; East Lancashire, 71½; Great Northern B Stock, 123½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 94; Great Western, 63½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75½; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 98; London and North-Western, 97½; London and South-Western, 81; Midland, 68½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 40; Newport, Abergeenny, and Hereford, 13½; Norfolk, 47½; North British, 28; North Devon B Guaranteed, 64; North-Eastern—Berwick, 70½; Ditto, Extension, 12½; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 8½; Ditto, Leeds, 12½; Ditto, York, 48; North Staffordshire, 128; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 25½; South-Eastern, 60½; South Wales, 26½; Vale of Neath, 16½.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—London, Tilbury, and Southend, 11½; Wilts and Somerset, 88½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cent, 115½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 101; Ditto, Five per Cent Scrip, 5½; Great Western Irredeemable Four per Cent, 91; Ditto, Birmingham, 104½; Ditto, Guaranteed Stock, 73; Ditto, Chester Shares, 19½; Midland Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 96; Ditto, Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cent, 134½; North British, 100; Stockton and Darlington, 16½.

FOREIGN.—East Indian Five per Cent, 23½; Ditto, Extension, 12½; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 6; Great Luxembourg, 1½; Great Western of Canada Shares, 18; Hamilton and Toronto, 20½; Madras (new), 11½; Namur and Liège, 5½; Paris and Lyons, 39; Scinde, 1½ pm.

There has been a slight improvement in the demand for Mining Shares. Brazilian Imperial have marked 2½; Copiapo, 23; Fortuna, 1½; Linares, 7½; Santiago de Cuba, 5½; Tin Croft, 1½; United Mexican, 7½.

## Friday Evening.

In consequence of a report to the effect that Lord Pamure had resigned office, Consols have been flat, and a decline of one quarter per cent has taken place in prices since the opening of the market. The Three per Cent Consols have marked 89½ down to 88½. The New Three per Cent Consols are 88½. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 10s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are flat.

## THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week have been very moderate, and the show of samples here to-day was limited. The amount of business done was not so extensive; yet, in some instances, prices were from 3s. to 3s. per quarter higher than on Monday, and a good clearance was effected. There was a slight improvement in the inquiry for foreign wheat, the show of which was limited, and the quotations were fully as higher. Floating cargoes of grain were steady, at very high prices. There was more doing in barley, and grinding and distilling sorts were the turn dealer. Malt changed hands slowly, on former terms. We had a good consignment of demand for oats, at very full prices. Beans, peas, and flour, were held for more money. The top price of English advanced to 70s. per 260lbs.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1280; barley, 4450; malt, 4090; peas, 690; rye, 1140. Foreign: wheat, 4330; barley, 730; oats, 20,310; flour, 130 sacks. English: wheat, Essex and Kent red, 64s. to 69s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 82s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 64s. to 69s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 82s.; rye, 35s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 37s. to 39s.; distilling, 39s. to 42s.; malt, 30s. to 32s.; maiting, 30s. to 32s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 62s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s. to 25s.; potato, ditto, 27s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 23s. to 25s.; buck beans, 36s. to 40s.; grey peas, 34s. to 37s.; mangle, 37s. to 39s.; white, 36s. to 40s.; bollers, 37s. to 42s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 47s. to 49s.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 49s. to 50s. per 80 lb. sack. The flour, 36s. to 42s. per barrel.

SEAS.—We continue to have a steady demand for nearly all kinds of seeds. Prices rule as follows:—

Lined, English, sowing, 68s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 60s. to 62s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 60s. to 61s.; hempseed, 48s. to 56s. per quarter. Coriander, 30s. to 34s. per cwt. Brown Mustard seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s.; Turas, 9s. to 10s. per bushel. English rapeseed, 43s. to 46s. per last of ten quarters. Lined cakes, English, 21s. to 23s.; ditto, foreign, 21s. to 23s.; rape cakes, 26s. to 28s. 10s. to 26s. 10s. per ton. Canary, 46s. to 50s. per quarter. Red clover, English, 53s. to 56s.; white ditto, 65s. to 72s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 9½d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 68s. 6d.; barley, 31s. 5d.; oats, 25s. 10d.; rye, 38s. 11d.; beans, 41s. 5d.; peas, 30s. 10d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 67s. 11d.; barley, 30s. 8d.; oats, 25s. 4d.; rye, 39s. 8d.; beans, 40s. 8d.; peas, 30s. 3d.

English Grain sold last week.—Wheat, 95,446; barley, 36,163; oats, 20,157; rye, 117; beans, 4921; peas, 797 quarters.

Wool.—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, and, in some instances, prices have had a downward tendency. In the private market very little is doing, and common sound combed is selling at 9½d. per lb.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled steadily, owing to the additional duties. West India has changed hands at 2s.; other kinds, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per cwt. above last week's currency. The duties on the latter are 3s. per cwt., so that prices have slightly given way. Floating cargoes of foreign sugar moved off freely, at very full prices. Refined goods have sold somewhat briskly. Brown lump, 4s. to 46s. 6d.; and a grocery, 47s. to 52s. per cwt. The total clearances to the 21st inst. were 2,345,234 cwt. against 1,888,390 ditto in 1854.

Coffee.—For most descriptions there has been only a limited demand. In prices, however, no material change has taken place.

Rice.—Our market rules flat, yet sales have been concluded on former terms. Mid. white Bengal has realised 13s. to 13s. 6d. per cwt.

Tallow.—Our market is rather active, and prices continue to advance. P.Y.C., on the spot, has changed hands at 53s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt.; and 54s. to 57s. 6d. to the end of the year.

Spirits.—The demand for rum has ruled tolerably firm, at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. for proof Leeward, and 1s. 11d. to 2s. for East India. For brandy there is an improved inquiry, and the quotations have an upward tendency. Corn spirits are worth 10s. 6d. proof.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 23 lbs. to 25 lbs.; clover ditto, 23 lbs. to 26 lbs.; and straw, 11 lbs. to 11 lbs. per load.

Wool.—The next series of colonial wool sales will commence on the 3rd proximo. Our market is heavy, yet scarcely any change has taken place in the quotations.

Potatoes.—The supplies are moderate, and a fair amount of business is doing, at from 7s. to 10s. per ton.

Cattle (Friday).—Carr's Hartley, 19s.; Hartley, 18s. 6d.; Holywell, 17s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 16s. 9d.; Wylam, 17s.; Eden Main, 18s.; Haswell, 19s.; Lambton, 18s. 9d.; Stewart's, 19s. per ton.

Hops (Friday).—There is only a moderate inquiry for most kinds of hops, yet last week's prices are mostly supported. The imports are only 12 bales from Rotterdam. Mid and East Kent pocket, 41s. to 50s. W. of Kent, 21s. 10s. to 21s. 10s.; Sussex, 21s. 10s. to 21s. 10s.

Smithfield (Friday).—To-day's market was seasonably well supplied with beasts, most breeds of which sold slowly, at Monday's currency. The show of sheep was good; yet the mutton trade ruled brisk, at very full prices. Lambs were in full average supply, and steady request, at extreme rates—viz., 5s. 4d. to 7s. per 8 lbs. We had a good inquiry for calves, the show of which was on the increase, at full quotations. In pigs, very little was doing, on former terms. Milch cows sold slowly, at from 11s. to 11s. 10s. each, including their small calf.

Per 8 lbs. and sink the offals.—Cows: prime Scots, 8s. 4s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 6s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; prime coarse-woolled sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; large coarse calves, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 0d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; lambs, 5s. 4d. to 7s. 0d.; suckling calves, 24s. to 26s.; and quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 25s. Total supply: beasts, 900; cows, 140; sheep and lambs, 7800; calves, 569; pigs, 340. Foreign: beasts, 130; sheep, 50; calves, 290.

Newgate and Leadhall (Friday).—The trade ruled steady, at full quotations:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large pork, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; lamb, 5s. 2d. to 6s. 6d.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 24.

## WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 24TH.

1st Dragoons: Cornet J. Lee to be Adjutant.  
Coldstream Foot Guards: F. H. A. Seymour to be Ensign and Lieutenant.  
Scots Fusilier Guards: Lieut. and Capt. and Brevet-Major the Hon. W. F. Scarlett to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. H. H. White to be Lieutenant and Captain.  
2nd Foot: F. J. Jessop, H. H. Muloch, to be Ensigns.  
3rd: H. Peachey to be Ensign.  
4th: Ensign T. C. Lloyd to be Lieutenant.  
6th: A. W. O. Saunders, T. Bowen, W. S. Harding, to be Ensigns.  
Lieut. J. H. Cooper to be Captain; C. S. Courtney to be Ensign.  
9th: Ensign J. M. Queen to be Lieutenant; A. Fitz J. C. Rollo to be Ensign; J. J. Plummeridge to be Ensign; Assist.-Surgeon H. Thornton to be Surgeon.  
14th: W. N. Watson to be Ensign.  
16th: A. Gibson to be Ensign.  
18th: G. S. Hutchings to be Ensign.  
20th: Ensigns P. Geraghty, H. W. Mason, W. Young, to be Lieutenants; F. B. Cole to be Ensign.  
28th: G. C. S. Ducat to be Ensign.  
31st: Ensign W. Thwaytes, H. P. Deane, to be Ensigns.  
34th: E. W. B. Villiers to be Ensign.  
36th: R. B. Hill to be Ensign.  
38th: Staff Surgeon of the Second Class T. F. Wall to be Surgeon.  
39th: Ensign W. H. Palmer to be Lieutenant.  
42nd: Brevet-Major A. Cameron to be Major; Lieut. W. C. Ward to be Captain; Lieut. D. Macpherson to be Captain; Ensign Rifle Brigade: S. C. Glyn, W. Palliser, C. T. Murdoch, H. M. Moorsom, to be Ensigns; Sergeant H. Harvey to be Quartermaster; Assistant-Surgeon H. S. Sanders to be Surgeon; Assistant-Surgeon G. Lawson to be Assistant-Surgeon.  
1st West India Regiment: Sergeant-Major T. Edmunds to be Ensign and Adjutant.  
2nd: Ensigns A. Dunlop and J. J. L. Duncan to be Lieutenants.  
Ceylon Rifle Regiment: F. B. Staples to be Ensign.  
Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment: Lieut. A. P. Kerr to be Lieutenant.  
LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—Superintendent W. Stevens to be Quartermaster of Brigade.  
STAFF.—Captain J. Hanham to be Assistant-Adjutant of a Depot Battalion; J. W. Macdonnell to be Surveyor to the Forces.  
Inspector-General of Hospitals: Surgeon F. Barker to be Staff-Surgeon of the First Class.  
Assistant-Surgeon M. Combe, M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class; V. M. M. Master, A. Hoyte, N. P. Betts, T. Kennedy, N. Norris, J. R. Crawford, J. W. Rimmer, G. Bayly, E. R. Blackett, J. Watts, G. T. Bourke, and D. Stranaghan, to be Acting Assistant-Surgeons.

The undermentioned officers and gentlemen, having been selected for service with the Turkish Contingent Force, to be sent on a step of local rank while so employed; their Commissions to bear date 27th March, 1855:—Brevet-Col. J. Michel, C.B., and A. A. T. Cunyngame, to be Major-Generals. Lieut.-Col. D. F. Evans to be Brigadier-General. J. O'Meara to be Lieutenant-Colonel. Captains R. Carey, J. H. F. Elkington, F. Miller, G. A. Hartman, and W. Coates and K. M. Westmacott (late Captains), to be Majors. Lieutenants H. Phillips, R. J. Hughes, G. M. Pasley, D. P. Brown, G. Sullivan, R. C. Glover, F. J. Connell, and Sir J. Stuart, G. H. A. Robeson, J. W. Nelson, W. Guernsey, and H. St. Leger, to be Captains.

## BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

S. COWPERTHWAIT, Manningham, Yorkshire, bobbin turner.—E. MEADE, Bristol tavern keeper.  
J. APPLETON, Sommerford-grove, Stoke Newington-road, dealer in flour.—D. HARRIS, Sutherland-place, Sutherland-square, bookseller.—





THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH LEAVING BUCKINGHAM PALACE FOR GUILDHALL.



DEPARTURE OF THE IMPERIAL VISITORS, IN "THE EMPRESS" STEAMER, FOR BOULOGNE.